

Committee
West Bank doctor
who can't return
home — Page 2

שכר אכלא



THE JERUSALEM POST

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Aids: Protecting
dentists, Page 4

may be asked to order resumption of full service

Public stranded as Egged strikes

By JONATHAN KARP and ANDY COURT
of frustrated and weary travellers taxi last night, as Egged stopped its service throughout the country for the first in a row. Interurban buses were usual. Executive board planned to meet this morning to discuss what action the cooperative might take.

Transport Ministry plans to initiate proceedings in the Tel Aviv Magistrates' court against Egged for failing to provide service. The ministry hopes that the order Egged to resume full service, issued at 7 p.m., an hour earlier last night.

As been no contact between the government and Egged since the strike began on Monday. Each side said it was waiting for the other to make contact.

Levin, chairman of Egged's secretariat for the first time that a total bus strike is possible. "It depends on many factors," he said.

He launched the limited strike despite an agreement with the Transport and Finance Ministry not to disrupt service while the parties

were negotiating a new contract aimed at solving the bus cooperative's financial problems. The deadline for reaching the new contract is July 15.

Levin argued that the government itself had caused the strike by withholding funds. He added that Egged needed NIS 25 million to maintain full service till the middle of July.

Transport Minister Haim Corfu further angered Egged officials yesterday by leaving for a visit to France.

The Transport Ministry alleviated last night's problems by coming to an agreement with the Taxi Driver's Association, whereby taxis will operate along bus routes during the strike for fares of NIS 1 for rides of less than five kilometres, and NIS 2 for longer rides.

The agreement helped, but there was confusion and consternation nonetheless.

At Jerusalem's Mahane Yehuda market, crowds of people descended on each available taxi, asking anxiously whether the driver was going their way.

Most of the cabs in downtown Jerusalem seemed full of passengers who were paying NIS 1 or NIS 3. But in several cases involving smaller taxis, the drivers were either using the metre or negotiating fares with passengers.

The Dan bus cooperative continued to provide full service in the Tel Aviv area. In Beershe-

ba and Ashdod, private bus companies filled the gap.

Eli Every, an Egged driver on an inter-urban route, said that it pained him to see people waiting at the bus stops, but he believed the strike was necessary.

He had heard that if government funds were not forthcoming there might not be enough money to pay his salary next month. On the other hand, "If, tomorrow, we're not working, how will I support my family? I've got five people to support."

The Transport Ministry yesterday reiterated its claim that the government does not owe Egged any money.

Levin, meanwhile, has come under fire from Egged directors who say they have not been fully informed about the company's finances. Two of the directors, Yitzhak Rudi and Uzi Yefet, yesterday applied to the Tel Aviv District Court to order the Egged chairman to give them a detailed report on the cooperative's finances.

The suit, handed to the court by attorney Mivi Moser, alleges that Levin has refused several requests for information on the company's finances. Last Sunday, one day before the strike, Levin reported to the directorate a monthly deficit of NIS 10 million, but he did not give any details, the petition said.

The talks with Syria that 'never happened'

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Foreign Ministry yesterday described as "baseless" an Egyptian news agency report of a May 20 meeting in Switzerland between Israeli and Syrian negotiators on the situation in Lebanon. "No such meeting took place," said ministry spokesman Ehud Gol.

The Cairo-based Middle East News Agency (Mena), quoting "unnamed diplomatic sources in Geneva," said that the meeting, which was held in Basel, was part of a series of Syrian-Israeli contacts aimed at "determining the limitations of movement of the two countries in Lebanon."

Mena said that the Geneva sources discounted the possibility that the Syrian-Israeli meetings had dealt with the Golan Heights.

Egyptian officials said in January that they had reason to believe that Syrian and Israeli officials had met secretly several times in U.S. and in Europe.

Syria has maintained publicly that it opposes direct talks with Israel.

Foreign Ministry political director-general Yossi Beilin met in Switzerland yesterday with Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Ober, who offered to host an international peace conference and to help establish ties between Israel and the Arab states. Ober expressed concern about the future of Israel as a Jewish state if the peace process in the Middle East remained frozen.

Soviets want to send consular delegation here But Israel demand for reciprocal visit rejected

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Soviet Union yesterday announced that it had applied for visas for a consular delegation to travel to Israel, but continued to reject Israel's demand for reciprocity.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said in Moscow yesterday that the delegation, headed by the deputy chief of his ministry's consular division, Yevgeny Antipov, could be in Israel at the beginning of next month if the visas were granted. The Soviet request was submitted to the Dutch Embassy, which represents Israel's interests in Moscow.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem said yesterday that he had no knowledge of any Soviet request for visas.

Both Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek said last night that they had not heard directly from Moscow about the Soviet delegation, except for radio reports. Van den Broek stressed that "we will continue to perform the task of representing you in the Soviet Union to the best of our ability."

Speaking at a dinner last night hosted by Peres, the Dutch Foreign Minister said the changes one discerns in the Soviet Union, however preliminary they are, certainly promise a new role for the Soviet Union in the world. These changes ought to be put to a test, he held, such as on the issue of Soviet Jewry. "We must urge them to put their pronouncements into deeds," he stressed.

Peres praised the Netherlands' role in "helping us save Soviet Jewry — the future of our country."

Following a 90-minute meeting in Helsinki between Soviet and Israeli officials last August, both Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres demanded that an Israeli consular delegation be allowed to make a reciprocal visit to Moscow. But while Shamir insisted on reciprocity as a precondition for a Soviet visit, Peres's aides implied that Israel's Helsinki delegation had not made reciprocity a *sine qua non* for the Soviet visit.

Gerasimov said yesterday that "a reciprocal visit by an Israeli group is out of the question because Israel has no property here and we have no permanently residing citizens of (Continued on back page)

Build-be mber led

JONATHAN KARP
The Jerusalem Post
A man was killed yesterday when a bomb he was pre-w up in a car in Petah Tikva.

A shooting occurred just after the corner of Pines and streets. The man, who intended to plant the he parked car, was thrown vehicle by the force of the car went up in flames, but damage was done.

Cars and ambulances arrived at the scene and found the car and the suspected terrorist in the street. Paramedics tried to revive him, but without success, spokesman said.

A spokesman for the Central Security Force last night would not reveal the man's identity or where he was from Israel or the

arrested dozens of Arab for questioning after the Israel Radio said. Last of them had been re-

at 6 a.m. yesterday a small discovered at a bus stop in Residents who noticed a plastic bag at the stop Kibbutz Galuyot police officer who was the area. Sappers safely d the bomb.



day Royal Ascot race highlight of the English n — began yesterday. the fashion novelties worn by the doyen of haute couture, tilling. (Reuters)

ain't no
g gun,
agan

ON (AP) — President ared yesterday. "There oking gun [clear evi- he knew about the t Iranian arms-sales Nicaraguan rebels. as strongest denials of in the secret diversion the Contras. Reagan there was no evidence warrant impeachment against him. uted his remarks to he entered a luncheon the Republicans. easonal spotlight on the effort is growing dim. named, saying people back to their favourite



Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, right, met in Jerusalem yesterday with prominent Palestinians from the territories. Discussions focused on an international peace conference and Palestinian representation in such talks. From left are Jack Khazmo, editor of "al-Bayader al-Siyassi" magazine, deposed Gaza mayor Rashad Shawwa, Gaza lawyer Fayez Abu Rahme, deposed Hebron mayor Mustafa Natshe, Bir Zeit University professor Dr. Sari Nusseibeh and Van den Broek. (See "Peres pressing Europe," page 2) (Rahamin Yisraeli)

Cooperation on security, development

Israel and Togo agree to differ on peace parley

By BENNY MORRIS
Post Diplomatic Correspondent
KARA, Togo. — Israel and Togo will set up industries in each other's cities by August. Prime Minister Shamir and Togo President Gnassingbe Eyadema agreed yesterday on the second day of talks between the two leaders.

At a news conference yesterday, Eyadema said that Israel would assist Togo both in the counter-terrorism and military fields. He recalled that Togo had suffered from terrorism, noting an explosion in the capital city of Lome in 1985 and an abortive coup last September against his regime.

Eyadema said that Israel would not have a large military presence in Togo but would advise and train units of the security forces, including the presidential guard.

Sources in Shamir's entourage yesterday said that Israel needs and seeks "no more than 10" embassies in black Africa. "If we get two or three more that will be enough as far as we are concerned. We will not press afterwards for further embassies and anyone who re-establishes relations with us after that will get nothing in aid from us."

Afro-Cuban music filled the air in the sweltering open area where several thousand local residents greeted the two men here when they

transferred from the capital Lome to Eyadema's home region of the Kabye volcanic mountain range in northern Togo. Government dance groups sang songs in Hebrew as the two leaders sat outside the local headquarters of the ruling party, the Togolese People's party. Local residents paraded before them in traditional costume.

The two-day Shamir visit, while marked by generous — indeed lavish — presidential hospitality, ended without a joint communiqué by the two leaders who failed to bridge their disagreements over an international Middle East peace conference and PLO participation in the peace talks.

At a news conference last night the two leaders agreed to differ, with Shamir acknowledging that many countries support the conference concept. Shamir stated that he believes such a conference will lead nowhere.

Eyadema conceded that Shamir was better versed than he was on the ins and outs of an international conference. He repeatedly returned to the theme of a joint communiqué, acknowledging that, before the Shamir visit, he had anticipated that there would be a joint communiqué.

Shamir said that there had been no joint communiqué because it was not (Continued on Back Page)

Recanatis trying for comeback

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

The Recanati family have seized the initiative in the slow-burning drama over the future ownership of one of Israel's big-three commercial banks.

Less than a year after being forced to withdraw from active management of Israel Discount Bank, the family is seeking permission from the authorities to invest new funds in Discount's parent, IDB Bankholding Corp.

The request, formally presented to the Bank of Israel and the Treasury recently, and sent to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange yesterday, has been under discussion for several months. Its publication comes at a time when Treasury and central bank officials, who have been working on solutions to the problem of ownership of the main banks, seem to have reached an impasse. The government will effectively take control of the banks whose shares were involved in the "arrangement" prior to the 1983 crash, after it has redeemed them from shareholders at their pre-crash price this October and next.

Competing ideas are being tossed around, both within the government institutions and in public forums. However, there is a growing feeling that the government would prefer to duck the issue. The main bulk of the bank shares have to be redeemed by the government in October 1988 — only 16 months away.

IDB, in which the Recanatis have (Continued on Page 9)

Chinese invite Communists from Israel on 10-day visit

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Post Political Reporter

A two-man official delegation of the Israel Communist Party is due to fly to Peking at the end of next week for a 10-day visit at the invitation of the Chinese Communist Party.

A Foreign Ministry source said last night that the Chinese invitation gives rise to "a little optimism" on the future of Chinese-Israeli relations, and is one of a number of

"other small signs" of improvement.

The two delegates are MK Meir Wilner, general-secretary of the ICP, and George Toubi, the ICP's foreign relations director (and brother of MK Tawfik Toubi). Peking will finance the trip.

The invitation followed several months of formal and informal contacts between the two parties, and brings to an end a 25-year freeze in relations. Toubi last visited China in

1961, and Wilner, in 1956.

Wilner said last night that he views himself as "representing the interests of the Israeli people" even though he is not an official representative. Regarding an official resumption of diplomatic relations with China, Wilner said that "everything depends on Israel and on a fundamental change in its peace policies." He said that then- (Continued on Back Page)

Former bank lawyer denies \$13m. fraud, theft charge

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The former legal adviser of the North American Bank, Shmuel Barzel, who was charged on Monday with theft and fraud totalling \$13 million, said yesterday that he had acted in good faith. He said he hoped that the court would clear him and asserted that the charges did not say that the money went into his pocket.

In a revised indictment presented on Monday to the Tel Aviv District Court, Barzel was charged with stealing \$5 million from the bank and of fraud involving another \$8 million.

Barzel told *The Jerusalem Post* that he had known of the impending charges against him for three months: "I can only assume that the Bank of Israel wants to pin the blame for the bank's collapse on the whole board."

Barzel said he had left the board of the bank a year before its collapse.

The original charge sheet, filed some months ago, charged bank director Yehoshua Halperin with embezzlement of \$20m. from the bank.

The revised charge sheets says that Barzel helped Halperin in his activities, using sophisticated methods to deceive the Bank of Israel's inspector of banks.

Among the offences that Barzel is charged with are theft, fraud, embezzlement and forgery, and other violations of banking laws. He is also accused of illegally transferring money abroad.

Barzel and Halperin are charged with setting up fictitious companies in order to extract money from the bank, and of taking control of a foundering company and transferring fictitious credit from the bank to that company.

LATE NEWS

Bernard Goetz, the New Yorker who shot four muggers in a subway two years ago, was acquitted yesterday of attempted murder and assault. However, the jury found him guilty of illegal possession of weapon.



A Tamil refugee breaks down on arriving in southern India after an all-night boat journey from strife-torn Sri Lanka. (Reuters)

'Young Turks' seek reforms in the Soviet Army

By ANDREW WILSON

MOSCOW. — The internal debate over Mikhail Gorbachev's "renewal" policy, which is likely to be aired further at the approaching Central Committee plenum, is spilling over into the Soviet armed forces.

A Soviet source, who asks to be identified only as Colonel X, said that there were 25 "Young Turks" among senior commanders who favour a drastic restructuring of the entire military system.

Asked to elaborate, Colonel X would say only that in this context "a young Turk could be anywhere between 40 and 60 years old." Rumbles have been heard for some time, most notably in an editorial in the armed forces newspaper *Krasnaya Zvezda* (Red Star) criticizing many officers for their failure to catch up with the new thinking.

The debate has now been unexpectedly sharpened by the Rust affair. The penetration of Soviet airspace by the young German enabled Gorbachev to sack the ageing defence minister, Marshal Sergei Sokolov, and his 63-year-old air defence chief.

It is not clear whether the new defence minister, Dmitri Yazov, also 63, is with the "Young Turks," but his rapid promotion, over the heads of several senior generals, makes it possible.

The Young Turks are said to regard the present size of the armed forces (5,130,000 including 2,620,000 conscripts) as quite unnecessarily large.

By cutting numbers, the "Young Turks" want to create the leaner, more flexible and more efficient armed forces presupposed by

the doctrine of "sufficient defence" put forward at the recent Warsaw Pact summit.

How this would be done is not clear. A shortening of the present two-year conscription period would be a popular possibility. Efficiency would also benefit from a sharp cut in the mass of military bureaucrats abounding in Moscow.

If Gorbachev is finally taken at his word, and the West concludes a zero-zero deal on mid-range nuclear weaponry in Europe, the first crunch will come, not on ground forces, but on missiles.

Eliminating medium-range SS-20s would already require a contraction of the 298,000-strong Strategic Nuclear Forces Command. Proposals on longer-range missiles promised much deeper cuts.

It is far from clear how far the armed forces

are psychologically ready to go down this road.

The chief of the defence staff, Marshal Sergei Akhromyev, accompanies and supports Gorbachev at nearly every high level meeting on the subject. While Gorbachev rails at Reagan's "Star Wars" Akhromyev is said to be a space-weapons man.

The army is also ambiguous about Afghanistan, from which Gorbachev, for foreign and domestic reasons, is urgently wanting to withdraw the Soviet expeditionary force of over 100,000 men.

On the one hand, field commanders are said to be frustrated at the restrictions placed on them. On the other, they are reportedly "quite able to face another 10 years" continuing to gain experience that "could one day stand them in good stead in Africa."

(London Observer Service)

The weather at major Swissair destinations

	16.6.87	17.6.87	18.6.87
AMSTERDAM	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
COLOGNE	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
GENEVA	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
HELSINKI	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
LONDON	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
MADRID	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
MUNICH	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
PARIS	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
ROME	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
STUTTGART	10-18	12-18	Cloudy
ZURICH	10-18	12-18	Cloudy

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.
Tel Aviv: 03-5202522
Jerusalem: 02-5202522
Haifa: 04-5202522
Be'er Sheva: 05-5202522
Cairo: 02-5202522

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Clear to partly cloudy.

Jerusalem	Humidity	Min-Max	Today's
Jerusalem	43	12-27	26
Golan	45	14-29	28
Nahariya	76	21-27	27
Safed	37	16-28	28
Haifa Port	34	15-28	34
Tiberias	34	15-28	34
Nazareth	41	16-29	29
Afula	37	20-32	32
Shomron	38	19-29	29
Tel Aviv	70	20-28	27
B-G Airport	55	19-29	30
Jericho	33	20-37	37
Gaza	75	20-27	27
Beer Sheva	24	17-32	31
Eilat	17	23-37	38

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel yesterday received the new Bolivian ambassador, Simon Sejas Tordoya, and the new Costa Rican Ambassador, Laureano Alban.

The Franceschetti-Prize of the German Ophthalmological Society was presented on May 1 to Prof. David Klein of Geneva University, for his work on neuro-ophthalmology and neuro-genetics. Prof. Klein, a world authority on genetics, is highly regarded by his colleagues in Israel where he visits frequently. He is a member of the board of governors of Haifa University.

ARRIVALS

Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Spiegel, from Los Angeles, U.S., a true friend of Israel and the Museum of the Jewish Diaspora - Beth Hatefutsot - Friday, June 19, 1987, T.W.A. flight No. 800 from Paris, at 4:00 p.m.

Robert and Beth Caster, Murray and Helene Brill, for the inauguration of the Gertrude H. Caster and Bertha H. Caster Rosas Scholarship Endowment Fund at Boys' Town Jerusalem.

Refusenik arrives with family

TEL AVIV (Itim). - Prisoner of Zion Simon Shnirman arrived here yesterday with 12 other Soviet immigrants to a warm welcome from representatives of the Council for Soviet Jewry.

Shnirman, a technician, who spent two-and-a-half years in jail for refusing to serve in the Red Army, stressed on arrival that he was not a pacifist and hoped to serve in the Israel Defense Forces once his health improved.

Shnirman arrived with his wife, his daughter and his mother. He said he was delighted to be in Israel.

Also arriving was Boris Kanevsky and his wife and son. Kanevsky is a mathematician who published a study that showed there was prejudice against admitting Jews to academic institutions in the Soviet Union. He was exiled to five years in Siberia.

The new arrivals broke into applause when they were told yesterday's news that former Prisoner of Zion Yuli Edelstein had been granted an exit visa and would be coming soon.

Blind man chases thief

TEL AVIV (Itim). - A thief who snatched a blind man's wallet early yesterday was caught after the blind man gave chase and passers by alerted police.

Shabtai Ben-Haim, 45, of Haifa was waiting at the central bus station here at 4:20 a.m. when a man approached him and asked him for NIS 10. When Ben-Haim refused, the man grabbed his wallet and fled. Ben-Haim went after the robber, shouting for police assistance as he did so. Witnesses alerted police who arrested the thief in a nearby bakery. Ben-Haim's wallet, with NIS 200 still in it, was found behind the bakery.

TOMORROW - HAGA (Civil Defence)

Exercise in Emek Hefer

Tomorrow, Thursday, June 18, there will be a HAGA exercise in the Emek Hefer district. Also taking part will be police, Magen David Adom, fire brigade and emergency services personnel. The sirens will be sounded; in the event of a real attack, they will sound a rising and falling note.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Peace, economics on Peres's European agenda

Major push for European support

By BERNARD JOSEPHS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

An all-out effort to win official European backing for an international Middle East peace conference is to be launched by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres next week. Peres, who is to visit Britain, France and West Germany, told visiting Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek yesterday that the peace moves would be the central aim of his trip, which starts on Monday.

In apparent reference to his sharp difference with Prime Minister Shamir, who is opposed to such a conference, Peres said he was hoping for a cabinet decision backing his stand.

The foreign minister and van den Broek met in Jerusalem yesterday on the first full day of the Dutch minister's stay.

During private talks, Peres stressed that an international conference would be only the first step in the peace process and should lead to direct negotiations between Israel and the various Arab delegations.

"We must proceed as quickly as possible," he told van den Broek.

"This is a chance for peace we must not miss."

Peres also said he plans to seek support from European leaders for an international conference to resolve regional economic problems. This conference would be held simultaneously with the peace talks.

The Dutch foreign minister appeared to support Peres's view and reported that during recent visits to Arab countries he had discovered a "positive" attitude towards the peace process.

But, he warned, that this could change if no progress was made, opening the way for a resurgence of Arab extremism.

Both men agreed that the support of the U.S. and of the Soviets is vital if an international conference is to take place.

Van den Broek, whose country represents Israel's interests in Moscow, said he believed the Kremlin's attitude was positive. The recent increase in the number of Jews allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union was one sign of this.

Peres said that Israel's conditions

for Soviet involvement in the Middle East peace process remained unchanged. There had to be free Jewish emigration and a renewal of diplomatic relations, which were broken off by Moscow at the time of the Six Day War.

Peres said he believed the U.S. supported the idea of an international conference but was unwilling to say so because of fears that it would be accused of interfering in Israeli domestic politics.

He also believed that Palestinians in the West Bank were tiring of the PLO and that there was a growing desire to appoint leaders who would negotiate with King Hussein on the setting up of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to any peace talks.

On leaving the meeting with Peres, the Dutch foreign minister said: "I feel we must give up hope of arriving at an international peace conference because there's no alternative at the present time."

One of his aides said the talks between the two men were intensive and frank - "the kind of frankness

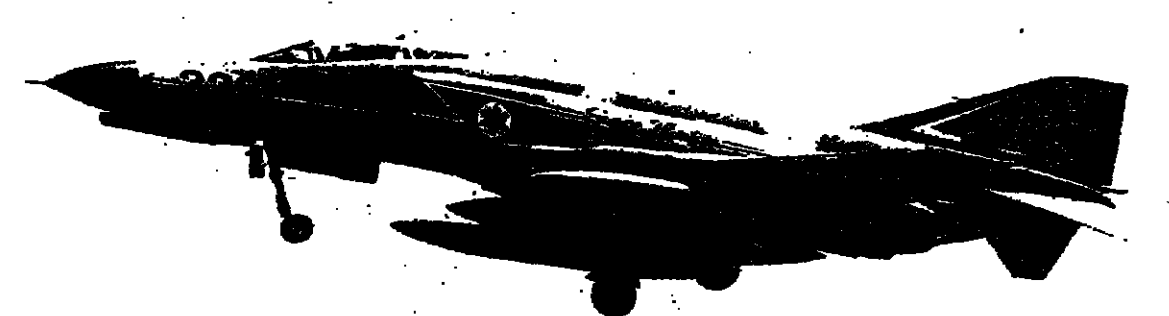
you get only between real friends."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Ehud Gol said Peres and van den Broek also discussed the issue of permitting direct exports from the territories to the European Community. The two leaders agreed to set up a joint Israeli-EC committee to study the issue, Gol said.

Today van den Broek is to meet with Mayor Teddy Kollek and a number of Knesset members.

Van den Broek last night praised the close and friendly relations between Israel and the Netherlands which are of a specific nature by history, common strife and even family ties. This deep-felt friendship can never be undone, he said at a dinner in his honour hosted by Peres. Unlike his visit here in 1983 one can see a number of very clear opportunities for peace which call for courageous steps, creativeness and imagination, he said.

Peres stressed the deep appreciation of Israel and of the Jewish people for the Dutch people who saved many Jewish lives during the Holocaust.



The Israeli "Super-Phantom" showing its paces at the Paris Air Show. This was the first public appearance of the U.S.-built fighter, upgraded in a joint venture of the Israel Aircraft Industries and the Israel Air Force. New vigour was injected in the venerable fighter by implanting two new engines and improving the airframe. The new version of the plane created much interest among representatives of national air forces at the show. Over 5,000 models of the plane have been built.

W. Bank MD a 'refugee' in London

By DAVID HOROVITZ
LONDON. - A young Palestinian doctor, whose official Israeli travel documents have been confiscated by the Israeli Embassy here yesterday, accused Israel of effectively turning him into a refugee.

Kalkiya-born Dr. Amin Shanti, a former consultant pediatrician at Ramallah Hospital, left Israel from Ben-Gurion Airport in July 1982 for treatment in London of a stomach ulcer.

He remained in Britain on study leave and later worked as a pediatrician at Alhamdani Hospital in Riyadh, before returning to London last week with the intention of flying on to Ben-Gurion.

But, Shanti told *The Jerusalem*

Post yesterday, when he went to the Israeli Embassy to have his travel documents renewed, the consul, Jacob Perry, confiscated them. Perry advised him that, since he had been given permission to reside in Britain permanently, he was no longer authorized to hold an Israeli-issued laissez-passer.

The embassy told him that, if he wanted to visit Israel, his family in Kalkiya could apply to the authorities in Jerusalem and he might be given a visitor's visa.

"I should not have to apply to return to my own home as a visitor, with the very real possibility that even my application to visit would be refused," Shanti said. "I was born on the West Bank, I left with full

Israeli permission, and it is surely illegal for them to confiscate my travel documents."

A spokesman for the embassy told *The Post* yesterday that Shanti's documentation had indeed been taken away from him, and that the correct procedure was for his family to apply in Israel for a visa for him.

The spokesman confirmed that, under Israeli regulations, he was no longer entitled to the documentation since he now has a British residency permit.

Shanti yesterday wrote to Israel Ambassador Yehuda Avner, urging him to reconsider his case and claiming that the confiscation of the laissez-passer was "a violation of my rights."

Shelling in Lebanon after attack on SLA tank

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. - A South Lebanese Army soldier was slightly wounded yesterday when enemy gunmen fired at his tank south of Kantara in the central sector. The SLA responded by briefly shelling Kantara and Majdal Selim.

Reports from Sidon citing Lebanese security sources said Israeli gunners and their militia allies pounded four villages in South Lebanon, wounding at least five people.

Residents said Israeli aircraft also flew low over Sidon and Tyre for more than three hours.

The attack on the SLA tank occurred at about 9 a.m. when the SLA force was patrolling along the Kantara-Taibe road, where several roadside bombs and mines have been planted in the past few months.

The SLA searched the area from which the attack was launched and found two LAU rockets, a rocket-propelled grenade and two Kalashnikov magazines.

The SLA opened tank and mortar fire on two villages north of the security zone for about five minutes, a South Lebanese source said.

Hizbullah claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement delivered to Beirut Radio. Hizbullah said it had destroyed an Israeli armoured personnel carrier.

Senior military sources here said the attack was typical of previous "pin-prick" attacks by Hizbullah. But it did not indicate a break from Hizbullah's pattern of large-scale attacks against the SLA.

ENVIRONMENT. - Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, the Netanyahu Municipality, the Baka al-Gharbiya local council, and the councils of Yokneam Illit and Mazeret Batya will today be awarded special prizes by the Interior Ministry for their contribution to preserving the environment.

Navon: Mandatory reading list for pupils

By DVORAH GETZLER
and ASHER WALLFISH

Schoolchildren will have to get through an approved reading list drawn up by a panel of experts, Education Minister Yitzhak Navon told the Knesset yesterday during a survey of his ministry's activities.

Another committee, said Navon, had just reported to him on texts that they recommend pupils be required to learn by heart. These will be drawn from the Bible and other ancient Jewish sources, through various historical periods, to the present day.

All this, he said, was in an endeavour to improve reading and expression skills. In this connection, Navon urged the government and the Knesset to set the example. He had too often heard children protest in class against the violent language used by their peers: "Where do you think you are, in the Knesset, in the cabinet?"

The results of today's experimental Bagrut paper in Hebrew comprehension and expression would be studied carefully, the minister promised. If it succeeded it would become compulsory for all 10th grade pupils.

Navon was fulsome in his praise of the teachers for "again being prepared to give up pay claims" in the interests of maintaining educational standards.

KNESSET ROUNDUP

Conflict of interest

Mapam MK Yair Tsaaban demanded yesterday that the State Control Committee examine the effectiveness of the Asher Committee rules against conflict of interest on the part of cabinet ministers.

This follows the collapse of the financial empire managed by the two businessmen-sons of Minister-without-Portfolio Yigael Hurvitz.

Tsaaban charged that Hurvitz, despite his disclaimers, had some involvement in his sons' enterprises as well as in the guarantees to banks which granted them loans.

Yoaav and Yoni Hurvitz went bankrupt last week.

Tsaaban charged that the two got loans and other financial benefits because their father was a cabinet minister. Their problems, he said, resulted from their receiving more loans than they could repay.

Moshav crisis

Two Likud MKs have asked the chairman of the State Control Committee to have the state comptroller prepare a special report on the financial crisis in the moshav movement and its purchasing organizations.

The two, Yehoshua Matza and

Sharon takes swipe at security policy in territories

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon visited Kiryat Arba yesterday and criticized government security policy in the territories. Official statements should be followed by deeds, he said.

"Security for Jews is the sole responsibility of the government, but it should be clear that responsibility is not only expressed in words, but by eradication of terrorism," Sharon told a cheering crowd at the settlement.

He participated in an awards ceremony for essays by pupils on Herut founder Zeev Jabotinsky.

vities Smuel Goren told some 30 camp leaders in a meeting at Dehaishe yesterday. Shopkeepers had complained that the fence, erected to deter stone-throwers, had seriously hurt their businesses by hampering the unloading of merchandise and access by customers driving along the Jerusalem-Hebron highway. Some shopkeepers had considered appealing to the High Court of Justice to get the fence removed.

Goren said the fence gates would be kept open as long as there were no violent incidents at the camp, and would be closed in times of unrest. The gates had been planned before

The Jerusalem District Court postponed until today its decision on whether to extend the detention of six men, from Hebron and Kiryat Arba, accused of rioting in the Dehaishe refugee camp.

In response to the court's observation that the alleged crimes of the six were a one-time occurrence, the prosecution said there was a danger that the accused would act similarly in the future.

Some 50 settlers from Kiryat Arba

and Hebron had planned the action in Dehaishe, said the prosecution. Three of the accused allegedly fired at homes in the refugee camp; the others are accused of throwing stones and assaulting IDF soldiers.

The prosecution noted that the six were accused of attacking reserve soldiers, including a company commander, and that this was a most serious matter. (Itim) (See story, page 4)

Sharon said it was an unfortunate fact that Jewish blood was freely shed on roads throughout the country, adding that it was inconceivable that Jewish traffic should not be secure.

He blasted calls for an international peace conference and said a Palestinian state already exists in Jordan. "Israel in its current borders - not that we don't have historical rights across the Jordan - is the compromise and the concession," he said.

Defence officials are considering opening gates in the fence erected last week in front of the Dehaishe refugee camp. Coordinator of Activ-

the fence was erected, but were built because the fence was put up in a hurry.

Goren said other moves to improve living conditions at the camp would be taken if it remained quiet. He did not elaborate, but defence officials are known to be considering paving roads and improving lighting inside the camp.

Goren asserted that quiet was a condition for proper relations between the Israeli authorities and camp residents. The Dehaishe leaders said they also wanted calm, and blamed the recent unrest on a small group of camp residents and persons from outside the camp.

Palestinians accuse army of blocking unions

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Palestinian trade union leaders in the territories charged yesterday that military authorities were blocking their efforts to organize by arresting activists and barring union activity.

The union leaders appeared at a Jerusalem press conference sponsored by the Israel League for Human and Civil Rights. Speakers included Adel Ghanem, head of the General Federation of Labour Unions in the West Bank, leaders of the Palestinian Federation of Labour Unions in the Gaza Strip, and league representatives Dr. Joseph Aligazi and Dr. Yisrael Shalak.

Aligazi said that in the past two weeks the Gaza Strip military government had barred nine union heads in the area from continued membership in the union and from entering union offices, under threat of arrest.

Ghanem said union activists in the West Bank were regularly placed under town arrest, and that union offices were subject to occasional searches and their occupants required to identify themselves. He called for the release of union activist George Hazboun, a Communist who was recently placed in administrative detention for three months.

Security sources told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that action had been taken against certain labour unions because they served as cover for organizational efforts and subversive activity by Fatah.

The sources added that union activity in Gaza was subject to Egyptian law which required approval by the local governing authorities. Activists had been arrested at illegal union meetings, at which inflammatory literature had been found, the sources said.

In recent months two unions in Gaza held elections in defiance of bans by the military government. Troops at the scene tried to block the balloting.

right when he protested against settlements in the territories, with Ariel Weinstein (Likud-Liberals) wanting to know how many kibbutzim Mapam had established in the Galilee over the past 10 years.

Left and right traded insults across the floor, with Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel trying in vain to cool tempers.

But this apart, it was an unusual hour in the Knesset with words such as Zionism, settlement, defence and borders, which usually provoke the expression of sharply dissenting opinions, this time uniting the house. From the gallery, a few score grey-haired men and women, who had taken part in the campaign 20 years ago, looked on.

The consecration of the tombstone of Prof. MOSHE (Muzz) HILL

will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 1987, at 4:30 p.m., at the Kfar Samir Cemetery, Haifa.

Judy, Batsheva, Eli, Noam

With great sorrow we announce the passing of HILDE WITROFSKY

beloved mother, grandmother on June 16, 1987.

The shiva is at 179 Aluf David St., Ramat Chai.

Ruthi, Dudi, Dana, Hadar and Keren

EDDIE ROSENBERG

deeply mourned by

Theo, Roy and Sharon Caplan, Michal and Amnon Fruchtman

SARAH (Sarina) BEN TOB

on Friday, June 19, (22 Sivan 5747) at 1:00 p.m., in Herzliya cemetery, Rehov Pisker.

Those who cherish her memory will gather at the gate of the cemetery.

Our thanks to all friends who offered condolences.

The Family

There will be a graveside memorial service for our dear

for our dear

for our dear

Communists slump, main parties gain

Power struggle after Italian polls

ROME (AP). — Election gains by Italy's Christian Democrat and Socialist parties threaten to renew a power struggle between the two rivals, while dreams of power-sharing faded for the Communists.

Complete returns from parliamentary elections on Sunday and Monday showed the Italian Communists, the largest Communist party in the West, sinking to their lowest level of voter support in 20 years. Both the Socialists and Christian Democrats gained ground.

The Communist defeat touched off a major buying spree on the Italian market. "The market response to the elections results is super-positive," said Paolo Antonelli, a broker for Banca Provinciale Lombarda di Milano.

The elections were called a year early when the government collapsed during Socialist-Christian Democrat feuding over control of the premiership. At stake were 630 seats in the Chamber of Deputies and 315 in the Senate.

While the results don't automatically produce a new government, they do affect how much clout a party has in shaping what will be the

nation's 47th government since World War II.

But because both Socialists and Christian Democrats gained greater voter support and each publicly claimed victory, ambiguity remained over which party gained the edge.

Former Socialist premier Bettino Craxi, who resigned in March as

With all votes counted, the Christian Democrats maintained their No.1 position in the Chamber of Deputies with 34.3 per cent, up from 32.9 per cent in the last elections in 1983. In the Senate, returns showed the Christian Democrats garnered 33.6 per cent, up from 32.4 per cent in 1983.

1983. In the Senate, they dropped from 30.8 to 28.3 per cent.

The Christian Democrats won 234 seats in the 630-member Chamber, up from 225 in the last legislature, the Communists 177, down from 198 and the Socialists 94, up from 73.

In the Senate, the Christian Democrats won 125, up from 120 in 1983 and the Communists 100, down from 107. The Socialists elected 36 senators outright and were expected to add a few more with the election of Socialist candidates who ran on multi-party tickets. The Socialists had 38 members in the old Senate.

Communist politicians and political commentators blamed Communist setbacks on the surprisingly strong debut of the tiny Greens Party, which they said wooed former Communist voters and further splintered the left.

Results showed the Greens winning 2.7 per cent in the lower house and 2 per cent in the Senate. In the Italian system, parties with less than 5 per cent have sometimes joined governing coalitions.

The rest of the votes were scattered among the small parties.

The voter turnout was 88.7 per cent, up slightly from 88 in 1983.

Italian porn queen enters parliament

ROME (Reuters). — Actress Ilona Staller, 37, whose bare-breasted campaign made headlines around the world, has won a seat in the Italian parliament on a slogan of "Down with nuclear energy; up with sexual energy."

Staller, a candidate for the small, maverick Radical Party, was voted in after a campaign in which she posed topless and often halted traffic in the capital.

Veteran Christian Democrat Giulio Andreotti has said that the blonde star would be entitled to sit in parliament — as long as she kept her clothes on.

The actress, better known as "Cicciolina" (the little chubby one), proved to be the Radical's most popular candidate after party leader Marco Pannella.

head of a five-party coalition, ending Italy's longest-surviving postwar government, called the situation "confusing."

The Christian Democrats as the dominant party are likely to be asked to form the next government. But the Socialists are also expected to press their claims to the premiership.

The Socialists won 14.3 per cent in the Chamber, up from 11.4 per cent. In the Senate, the Socialists slipped slightly from 11.4 to 10.9 per cent.

The Communists, who sought to end a 40-year shutout from government despite being Italy's second-largest party, were down to 26.6 per cent in the Chamber from 29.9 in

Students battle police in S. Korea

SEOUL (AP). — Thousands of students battled riot police in the streets with firebombs and rocks yesterday, and mobs attacked at least three police stations in fighting in a provincial city.

Students armed with wooden and iron clubs surged out of universities in Seoul and at least two other cities as riot squads fired volleys of tear gas and police in armoured cars pelted the crowds with tear gas grenades.

Hundreds of onlookers booed the police whenever they fired tear gas.

"Down with the military dictatorship," students yelled as they stormed police lines. Police huddled behind their shields as bottle bombs exploded in bursts of blazing petrol.

Some of the worst fighting yesterday was reported from the southern city of Chinhae, where thousands of people took to the streets. At least

three police stations were attacked by roaming bands of students, and one was gutted with firebombs.

About 1,500 students armed with rocks and firebombs battled police firing tear gas around the railway station in the central city of Chonan.

Seoul and other cities have been hit by a wave of anti-government protests since opposition groups began a drive last week aimed at ousting President Chun Doo-Hwan's government and forcing democratic elections.

The centre of Seoul, site of the worst battles in recent days, was relatively quiet yesterday. Hundreds of people chanting "Down with Chun Doo-Hwan" demonstrated in front of Myeongdong Cathedral, but there were no clashes.

Most of clashes yesterday broke out around university campuses

when students attempted to march into the streets. Political protests are common on South Korean campuses, but the violence appeared much more intense than usual.

Students took over the streets in at least two outlying areas of Seoul, pushing police back and bringing traffic to a halt. Triumphant students carrying flags emblazoned with revolutionary slogans ran up and down streets, taunting police.

Police headed by special martial arts attack squads stormed into Hanyang university in the capital as students hurled firebombs, bricks and rocks. Police were eventually forced to give way and hundreds of students surged into the streets to the applause of onlookers.

Police said that nearly 7,000 people had been arrested during the past week of violent demonstrations.

Citicorp to quit S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG. — Citicorp, the largest bank in the U.S., announced yesterday that it is ending its operations in South Africa.

The announcement was made to reporters in Johannesburg by Citicorp chairman John Reed, who said the local subsidiary was being sold to First National Bank, South Africa's largest, for 130 million rand (\$65m.).

He said his bank regretted the move, but added: "Current constraints on Citicorp have made it increasingly difficult to meet the needs of its South African clients in the manner they have a right to expect."

The news came just two days after the Ford motor company said it was negotiating to dispose of its South African interests.

More than 60 foreign firms have withdrawn from South Africa, under pressure from anti-apartheid groups, in the past two years. They include IBM, and General Motors.

The managing director of First National Bank, Chris Ball, said the Citicorp subsidiary would be maintained as an independent specialist bank serving the corporate market. All its staff would be retained.

He said the subsidiary's profit for the year ending December 31 was not expected to be more than 4.47 million dollars after taxes.

Blacks stay home on 'Soweto day'

JOHANNESBURG (AP). — Hundreds of thousands of blacks defied their own holiday yesterday, staying home to commemorate the 1976 student uprising in Soweto that sparked nationwide unrest.

Soweto, the township of 2.5 million blacks near Johannesburg, was almost totally shut down. Stores and municipal offices did not open, trains carried about 5 per cent of their normal commuter load, and buses and taxis did not run at all.

South Africa has no official holidays of symbolic importance specifically for the 24-million black majority. Many businesses, however, bowed to the demands of black labour unions and made June 16 a paid holiday.

Reports from townships in other parts of the country indicated that security forces were acting with restraint as blacks heeded a call by the United Democratic Front, the largest anti-apartheid coalition, to

observe the anniversary "with maximum discipline and unity."

On June 16, 1976, police fired on Soweto schoolchildren protesting against the required use of Afrikaans as a language of instruction in their schools. The incident set off a rampage of arson and rioting in Soweto and months of nationwide unrest that claimed 575 black lives by the official count. Now students are allowed a choice between English and Afrikaans.

'Nazi' Bern official resigns

GENEVA (JTA). — The uproar over unabashedly Nazi statements made last week by a Bern city councillor has not yet subsided, even though the councillor, Ernest Kim, was forced to resign his seat.

Kim, a member of the extreme right-wing National Action Party was quoted by the German newspaper *Bund* as saying: "I am a Nazi. All dark-skinned people should be expelled from Switzerland, mixed marriages should be prohibited, and foreigners should not be allowed to participate in demonstrations."

Kim's declaration was carried subsequently in many Swiss dailies.

Swiss politicians unanimously demanded that Kim be dismissed, leaving Markus Ruf, leader of the National Action Party no choice but to urge Kim to resign.

Since the ouster, National Action Party leader Ruf and the party itself have come under fire. The Swiss daily *La Suisse* countered party protestations that it is not Nazi-oriented by asking why leader Ruf is "always accompanied by shaven-headed bodyguards who attacked refugees from Sri Lanka and were arrested several times by police in Basel and Zurich."

Hard sell in France for men's snappy underpants

By PAUL WEBSTER

PARIS. — Passengers arriving at Paris's biggest suburban commuter station, Saint Lazare, have been greeted recently by six-metre high photographs of athletic black and white men wearing nothing but their underpants. Huge tapestries hanging from the station's arches showed a range of choices from staid Y-front styles to snappy briefs, all part of an underpants war to make Frenchmen change their underwear more often.

Apparently the French male buys only three pairs of what are called "slips" every year. Meanwhile, the Americans, as the advertisers put it, "consume" 20.

The commuter station display was part of the biggest advertising campaign ever carried

out by a French underwear maker — a \$3 million splurge followed by TV spots showing 10 near-naked men showing off their underpants to an entirely naked little boy. Up till now, the manufacturer, Dim, part of a group which also makes throwaway ball pens and razors, has been famous for its super-sexy advertisements for women's pantyhose and stockings.

Men were already changing their habits before the advertising splurge. The "slip market" has doubled in value to \$300 million over the past six years starting a craze for specialist shops with names like Slipissimo which has

According to government statistics, Frenchmen spend only about \$12 a year girding their loins but this could change dramatically as the



Monika and Karl-Heinz Rust, parents of the West German pilot Mathias, arrive at Moscow's Lefortovo prison yesterday to meet their imprisoned son. (Reuters telephoto)

Parents of 'Red Square' pilot see son in jail

MOSCOW (AP). — The parents of the young West German pilot, Mathias Rust, spent three hours at Moscow's Lefortovo prison yesterday on their first visit to their son since his arrest after landing a sports plane in Red Square.

Karl-Heinz Rust and his wife Monika Rust brushed past a group of Western reporters without responding to questions on their arrival in the prison.

By the time they emerged, reporters had been forced by police to move a block away and could not question the couple as they were sped away in a West German correspondent's car.

The Rusts left with a correspon-

dent and photographer from *Stern* magazine, which embassy officials say has paid the couple's expenses in return for an exclusive commentary on their visit to Moscow.

The West German embassy issued a statement saying the Rusts met with their 19-year-old son for an hour in the presence of its legal and consular affairs chief and a Soviet investigator.

The investigator then requested a meeting with the parents alone, and they spoke for two hours, the embassy reported. An embassy spokeswoman would not comment on what was discussed. The embassy is trying to arrange another meeting between Rust and his parents, she said.

Approaches to Kuwait mined

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP). — Iranian Revolutionary Guards and explosive experts are mining the narrow approaches to Kuwait's al-Ahmedi oil terminal, apparently seeking to neutralize the warship convoy system according to Gulf-based maritime salvage executives.

Some of these mines are buried in the mud on the seabed, the executives stated.

Arab and Western diplomatic sources confirmed the mining and said that even if minesweepers are brought in, the mines will be difficult to detect.

Meanwhile, the White House has said plans to reflag 11 Kuwaiti tankers moving through the Gulf were in the "final stages" and one senator

said Britain would also escort the ships in the war-torn region.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater, however, denied the comment made by Republican Senator William Armstrong that Britain would also protect the Kuwaiti ships.

Iran would be prepared to end the Gulf war if the United Nations called Baghdad the aggressor and an international court punished Iraq, Parliament speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani said yesterday, on Teheran Radio.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei, meanwhile, told Japan's visiting Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari that the issue of security in the Gulf should be separate from the Iran-Iraq war, the Iranian news agency Irna said. (AP, AFP, Reuters)

FOREIGN BRIEFS

Americans claim torture in Saudi Arabia

WASHINGTON (AP). — A group of Americans with ties to Saudi Arabia has told a congressional panel they were imprisoned, tortured or subjected to emotional abuse in the desert kingdom.

Patricia M. Roush said her former husband, a Saudi, kidnapped her two daughters, aged 8 and 5, in January 1986. She has not seen the girls since then even though she had been awarded custody by an American court. James E. Smrkovski, a former Saudi airlines administrator, said that during 15 months of incarceration in 1985 and 1986 six of his toenails were ripped out and he was beaten with bamboo sticks and subjected to electric shocks. He was accused of being a spy for Israel and Iran.

U.S. to press for missile sale to Saudis

WASHINGTON (AP). — The White House will ask Congress to reconsider the Saudi missile sale that President Ronald Reagan was forced to shelve last week, according to administration officials who say the first try was marked by poor salesmanship. National Security Adviser Frank Carlucci warned that "sudden congressional opposition to weapons previously approved and sold to Saudi Arabia (is) precisely the wrong signal to send to our friends, particularly the Saudis," who are backing U.S. policy in the Gulf. The current controversy is over the sale of 1,600 Maverick anti-tank missiles.

Bonn protests shelling of W. German ship

BONN (AP). — The Bonn government protested to Poland yesterday over the shelling of a West German ship while it was observing Soviet bloc maneuvers in the Baltic Sea. government spokesmen said. They said three West German sailors were injured when their military supply ship, the Neckar, was hit by five rounds of artillery fire from a Polish vessel.

A Defence Ministry spokesman said all evidence indicated that the shelling was an accident. But he added that the Polish government has yet to contact Bonn about the matter, which "makes one wonder if it really was intentional."

Permit for Yamani

BERN (AP). — Former Saudi Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani and his family received Swiss residence permits as a token of appreciation for the beneficial effect of his policies, the Swiss Justice Minister has said.

What's the time?

Many bar-mitzva boys and bat-mitzva girls in Israel can give you the answer because they have received watches through the Jerusalem Post Toy Fund. This is just one of the activities of the Jerusalem Post to help Israel's disadvantaged children. Demands for assistance are made all year round, not just at Hanukkah. So help us to help them by giving generously today.

Contributions can be mailed directly to The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000 or brought to any office of The Jerusalem Post: Jerusalem: The Jerusalem Post Building, Romema Industrial Zone; Tel Aviv: 9 Carlebach Street; Haifa: 16 Nordau St., Hadar Hacarmel.

U.S. offers to scrap short-range missiles

GENEVA (Reuters). — The United States yesterday presented its new offer for the worldwide elimination of all shorter-range nuclear missiles during a special negotiating session with the Soviet Union, a U.S. statement said.

U.S. negotiators made the offer to scrap all missiles with a 500-1,000 km. range as an integral part of a draft treaty presented earlier this year.

President Reagan said on Monday night he was ordering his negotiators in Geneva to change the draft, which had called for equal limits on such weapons.

Reagan, weakened politically by the crisis over secret arms sales to Iran, took the offensive against Congress and moved firmly towards his first arms control accord with the Soviet Union.

In his television speech on Monday night, Reagan also countered deep misgivings over the plan to have the U.S. navy protect Kuwaiti tankers in the Gulf, saying that "if we don't do the job, the Soviets will."

The president said he had ordered his negotiators in Geneva to seek the worldwide elimination of shorter range land-based missiles as part of a proposed pact banning medium-range missiles in Europe.

The proposal for the so-called "double zero" option originated in Moscow and was endorsed by the Nato allies last week after lengthy agonizing by West Germany, which feared it would be stripped of its nuclear protection.

Much of Reagan's speech was clearly an effort to win public backing for his policies over the heads of a Democratic-controlled Congress where his once formidable powers of persuasion have been eroded by the scandal over arms sales to Iran and the transfer of profits to right-wing Nicaraguan rebels.

Reagan gave a glowing report of last week's Venice summit of major industrial nations, widely described by commentators as lacking in achievement.

Otzar Hityashvuth Hayehudim B.M.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting, being the Thirty Second Ordinary General Meeting of the Company, will be held at the Registered Office, 26-28 Yehuda Halevy St., Tel Aviv, on Monday July 6th, 1987, at 15:00 hrs., for the following purposes:

- To receive and consider the Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1986 and the Reports of the Directors and the Auditors thereon.
- To elect Directors.
- To appoint Auditors and fix their remuneration.
- To transact any other business of the Company required to be dealt with at such meeting.

Tel Aviv, June 17th, 1987

By Order of the Board,
A. Sullivan, Adv.
Secretary

Note: A member entitled to attend and vote at the above-mentioned meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy or proxies to attend and vote in his place. Such proxy need not be a member of the Company.

THEY TAKE PLEASURE IN PLEASEING

The Moriah Plaza, Tel Aviv • The Moriah, Jerusalem • The Ramada Renaissance Hotel, Jerusalem • The Aviya Sonesta Beach Hotel, Eilat • The Ramada Continental Hotel, Tel Aviv • The Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv • The Yamit Tower, Tel Aviv • The Moriah Hotel, Eilat •

They know just what their guests appreciate in the morning. They give complimentary copies of

The Jerusalem Post.

The Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Hearing on Dehaishe attack:

Suspects' friends find strength in Isaiah's words

By ANDY COURT
For The Jerusalem Post

The words of Isaiah boomed through the corridors of the Jerusalem District Court as the six West Bank settlers charged with rioting at the Dehaishe refugee camp entered the court yesterday.

"Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought," sang some 50 supporters clapping their hands over their heads. "Speak the word, and it shall not stand: for God is with us."

The words from Isaiah 8:10 were meant to express support for the six, who have reportedly been on a hunger strike since Saturday. They also sum up the position of the Public Committee for the Kiryat Arba detainees which maintains that the detainees have been investigated in a biased manner by the police, and prosecuted with a zeal completely disproportionate to the crime. The group also claims that the suspects have already been tried by the media.

Their frustration with the judicial system was increased when the hearing to extend the settlers' remand

until the end of legal proceedings was held in Judge Ezra Hadai's relatively small hall instead of a much larger hall that was vacant upstairs. Only immediate family members were allowed in, leaving many of Kiryat Arba supporters, and newspaper reporters standing outside.

"There's already so little faith among the people here in the prosecution," said Noam Arnon, an activist on the committee. "The very least that people ask is to be present for the court case."

Because of the large amount of publicity the charges against the Kiryat Arba settlers have received, the committee released an alternative version of the events yesterday. It maintains that soldiers guarding the camp fired at the residents' houses, and the settlers only fired in the air in order to stop refugee camp residents from throwing stones at them.

"It's not for us to judge whether someone among the protesters fired at the roof or even at the house," the statement says. "We point out only that the soldiers were not investi-



Settlers accused of taking part in last week's attack on the Dehaishe refugee camp are brought to the Jerusalem District Court yesterday. (Rahamim Israeli)

gated along these lines, and no Arab resident of Dehaishe was investigated regarding the hail of stones that caused the whole incident in the first place."

The committee also says that the remarks that the commander of the reserve battalion guarding the camp made to the media were *sub judice*,

and that the police investigating the incident did not interview all the soldiers who were at the scene.

Damage done during the riot totalled some NIS 2,550, which was less than the cost of fixing the teeth of the woman who was injured by a stone in the incident that sparked the settler's action, the committee says.

Arab-Jewish neighborhoods now on Project Renewal's list

By DAVID ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Nine new neighborhoods - including two mixed Arab-Jewish communities - are being added to the Project Renewal programme and six others will expand their activities, Housing Minister David Levy told a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday.

The overall size of the programme, which now encompasses 84 troubled communities throughout Israel, will remain the same, as 12 other communities are being weaned from Project Renewal over the next three years.

Two of the nine new Project Renewal communities will be in a prototype programme that targets specific neighborhoods for physical improvements and involves the entire town in social projects, Levy said. Lod's Givat Ze'itim and Ramle's Giora quarter, which Levy said face special problems, will undergo physical renovation under the programme, while the towns will get funds for social projects.

Levy noted that both communities include Arabs and Jews, who will participate in the Project Renewal programmes.

The other seven new Project Renewal communities are: Dimona's Yosefah neighbourhood, with the entire Negev development town getting social assistance, Netanya's Gan Bracha and Amidar neighbourhoods, Kiryat Yam's Shechunot Bet



David Levy (N. Benami/Media)

and Gimat, Tel Aviv's Givat Aliya and Ajma quarters, Beersheba's Shehuna Dalet, Safad's southern section and Nahariya's Trumpledor neighbourhood.

Six other neighbourhoods that until now had been getting social assistance only will now receive aid in improving their physical infrastructure, Levy said. They are in Or Yehuda, Beit Shean, Bnei Brak, Tiberias, Yavne and Rosh Ha'ayin.

Levy said the weaning process for the 12 Project Renewal communities to be eventually dropped from the

programme had begun in 1985 with a one-third cut in their Project Renewal funding. After the end of 1988, their budgets would have to come exclusively from local authorities.

Levy noted that the weaning-off process was an essential part of the Project Renewal programme. If the communities were not left to tend for themselves eventually, that's not renewal, that's charity, he said.

Now in its 11th year, Project Renewal was at its founding an innovative programme to bring together the government, the Jewish Agency, Diaspora Jewish communities and residents of the targeted communities to jointly rehabilitate troubled neighbourhoods. The aim was eventually to bring the communities to the point where they could manage and fund their own community programmes without assistance.

Many of the sponsoring Diaspora communities have found the deadlines for spinning off their Project Renewal neighbourhoods to be unrealistically short and have continued funding them past their initial term. Through the end of last year, some \$70 million has been spent by Project Renewal.

Levy said that about \$700 million had been budgeted for the programme from all sources for this year and that the figure would remain about the same next year, as the number of participating communities would be about the same.

Brain cell transplant cures monkeys with Parkinson's disease

By JUDY SIEGEL

Post Science and Health Reporter

African green monkeys with drug-induced Parkinson's disease have been "cured" in the lab after receiving transplants of brain cells from monkey fetuses. This development, reported at an international symposium in Jerusalem, creates hope that the technique will cure humans of the slowly developing but fatal disease.

A report on the experiments in the Yale University University of Rochester transplant programme for Parkinson's disease by Prof. D. Eugene Redmond aroused considerable interest at the Sixth International Catecholamine Symposium at the Jerusalem Hilton. The hall was packed as Prof. Redmond, director of the neuro-behaviour laboratory at Yale, explained how his team of 14 was the first to transplant brain cells in primates. The transplants produced a remarkable recovery in all the animal recipients.

Scientists in Sweden are apparently ready to proceed with clinical trials on humans, using tissue from human fetuses. The use of human fetuses for research is almost unlimited in that country whereas in the U.S. official authorization is hard to come by.

In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday, the Texas-born scientist explained that cell-replacement therapy was made possible by increased understanding in recent years of dopamine, which is one of the catecholamines (substances that transmit messages between nerves.) The disease, which affects up to 1.5 million Americans, is caused by damage to the brain cells and a lack of dopamine, and its symptoms include tremors and muscular rigidity that can lead to a total loss of movement.

The disease was induced in male monkeys with the synthetic drug MPTP, which was illegally made in California five years ago for drug addicts who wanted a morphine-like drug. Addicts who took it arrived in hospital in a near catatonic state, unable to move anything except their eyelids. Doctors finally realized that it had induced a severe form of Parkinson's.

Redmond's team, working on monkeys in a former sugar plantation in the West Indies, transplanted dopamine brain cells from monkey fetuses into the brains of the Parkin-

son's stricken animals. Cells from other parts of the fetal brains were also transplanted into a control group. Animals that had to be tube fed because they could neither swallow nor move suddenly showed an "absolute recovery" in their appearance and motor abilities after receiving the dopamine cells, says Redmond. The control group showed no improvement.

The transplanted tissue was not rejected by the recipients, as the brain is one of the few organs that accept foreign tissue. But only brain tissue taken from monkey fetuses was effective, notes Redmond in response to arguments by virologists, who disapprove of animal experimentation.

His team also found that the fetal cells can be frozen and stored for months, without losing their efficacy. His team will continue its work, funded by the U.S. government, to determine whether there are any long-term effects or complications. But so far, seven months after the transplant, the monkeys remain cured of their Parkinson's disease, says Redmond.

There are numerous scientific questions about the procedure, the professor said, but if it proves successful in humans as well, it should eventually be used in treating other brain diseases and conditions, including traumatic injuries, stroke and possibly Alzheimer's disease. While human fetuses would have to be used initially, it should be possible, through genetic engineering, to take a patient's white-blood cells and alter them for cell-replacement therapy.

Meanwhile Redmond is not angry that the Swedes will probably use his team's discoveries to proceed with trials on humans. "Science is a horse race in some ways, and its nice to come out first. But we want to do it right."

So the Americans will have to wait for permission to use human fetuses, which are aborted by the millions in the U.S. Tissue from human fetuses, is already used in a diabetes treatment and for numerous research processes. While the aborted fetus would have its brain tissue removed while still alive, "the question is why it shouldn't be used to save lives of Parkinson's victims since it is thrown away anyway."

Hot line for battered wives

TEL AVIV. - Israel's first hotline for battered wives opened yesterday as a joint project of Wizo and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

The hotline can be reached 24 hours a day at 03-5461133 or 055-50506; at night an answering

machine will record the number where the caller may be contacted the next day.

Hotline volunteers - some of whom are former battered wives who have been rehabilitated - will refer callers to the appropriate social service or to Wizo's shelter for battered wives.

Zim Presents a New Operational Framework

The ZIM company has set up a new operational framework known as "The Israel and Near East Region". The establishment of this regional framework is meant to improve the level of service and quality of communication between Zim and its customers. The activities of the "Region" will focus chiefly on Israel, but will also include Romania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Egypt and Turkey. Four veteran Zim workers have been elected to the

board of the company. Saul Cohen-Mintz, Director; Ami Pempier, Marketing Manager; Captain Aharon Cohen, Operations Manager; and Ed Feingold, Management and Information Services Manager.

On Jerusalem Day and Shevuot, the Regional Management held two customers' meetings, in order to present the new set-up and to strengthen personal links with its customers.

Mr. Matti Morgenstern, Zim Managing Director, welcomed members of the convention.

Communicated by S.L.

Aliya vital, say 82% of Israelis

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN

For The Jerusalem Post

Eighty-two per cent of Israelis consider aliyah vital for the country, according to a survey conducted last September by the Absorption Ministry and the Pori Institute. The results were disclosed this week.

In 1979, only 72 per cent thought aliyah vital, but that was the lowest figure ever recorded in a survey. The greatest enthusiasm for aliyah registered by a poll was 90 per cent in 1976.

The latest survey found that 6 per cent thought that aliyah was not vital at all; 10 per cent said it is "somewhat vital" (a contradiction in

terms) and 82 per cent considered aliyah "extremely vital."

The respondents' age-group, employment and housing problems, and identification with Israeli society were found to be important factors in determining their attitude towards aliyah.

Thus, only 76 per cent in the 18-29 age-group thought aliyah vital, with 9.5 per cent saying "not at all." But in the 50-and-older age-group, 90 per cent said aliyah was "vital," and only 1.5 per cent said "not vital at all."

Among respondents worried about their employment or that of close

family members, 79 per cent considered aliyah vital, while 7 per cent said "not vital at all." But among those with no such worries, 88 per cent said "vital" and only 4 per cent "not at all." Worries about housing had a similar effect on replies.

But the most important factor in determining attitudes towards aliyah appeared to be feelings of identification with Israeli society. Here, 88 per cent of respondents with a high degree of identification said aliyah was vital, while only 45 per cent of those with a low degree of identification thought so. In the latter group 37.5 per cent maintained that aliyah was not at all vital.



A dentist and his assistant wear rubber gloves and masks in compliance with Health Ministry recommendations to prevent the spread of Aids. (Ippa)

New Health Ministry directives aim to reduce danger

Dentists forbidden to refuse treatment to Aids victims

By JUDY SIEGEL

Post Science and Health Reporter

The Health Ministry issued directives and recommendations this week to dentists and dental workers to reduce the danger of the transmission of Aids and infectious hepatitis during dental treatment. Dentists will not be allowed to refuse treatment to Aids victims, though they fear catching the deadly disease themselves.

Every dentist's office and clinic must be supplied with an autoclave or dry-heat sterilizer, a suction system, rubber dams and a disinfectant capable of destroying spores and viruses, as well as disposable rubber gloves and face masks, protective eyewear and white coats. The vast majority of dentists have most of these on hand, but many lack the gloves, masks and glasses.

Dr. Moshe Kelman, the ministry official in charge of dentistry, told *The Jerusalem Post* that concern among dentist and patients has in-

creased of late. The report at the Aids conference in Washington last week that a dentist allegedly got Aids from a patient heightened fears.

One dentist was quoted in a local paper as saying that he would not treat homosexuals. And when a paper reported that a dentist was a homosexual, people called Kelman to ask his name, so they could avoid him. Kelman refused.

Under the new directives, which were issued to all dentists and other in the field, dental practitioners do not have to use these items, but their use is recommended when dentists suspect the patient is in the high-risk category. The ministry, however, would like these recommendations to be followed in as many cases as possible.

If the patient is high risk, the ministry recommends, the dentist should soak impressions for a bridge in disinfectant, as well as all implements used in the mouth. High-risk

patients should be given the last appointment of the day, if possible, to reduce the risk of infection to patients coming later.

Dentists are also urged to get immunization shots against Hepatitis B, which cost \$120 per series and are effective for up to six years. The government will not subsidize the shots.

In the past two years, several dozen cases of infectious hepatitis have been transmitted by dentist to patient or by patient to dentist, and it can be fatal. The hepatitis danger is regarded as more threatening in the dentist's office than Aids, of which there are some 35 victims and hundreds of carriers in Israel.

The ministry also urges that dentists take full case histories of patients, as they are already required to do, to find out if they have a history of infectious diseases. However, the ministry advises the dentists not to ask outright if their patients have Aids or are homosexuals, so as not to offend them.

'Libyan Jews imprisoned under Rommel'

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. - When Field-Marshal Erwin Rommel and his Afrika Korps occupied Libya, "most of the small Jewish community were put into two concentration camps where many died from malnutrition, overcrowding and disease," one of the survivors, former Labour MK Ra'anan Naim, recalled yesterday.

Now a prosperous farmer in Ramot Naftali, Naim was asked by *The Jerusalem Post* what he recalled of that period, in view of the current

visit to Jerusalem of Rommel's son, Manfred, who was made a "Guardian of Jerusalem" by Mayor Kollek this week.

Naim, who was a boy in Benghazi at the time, said that almost all of the city's then 5,000 strong Jewish community were sent to one of the two camps in 1942.

Naim spent about 18 months in the camp, "until we were liberated by Field Marshal Montgomery and his Eighth Army" in 1943, following their victory over Rommel.

Eventually swept Rommel and his Afrika Korps out of Africa.

The camps were established by the Italians who were the colonial authority in Libya. Naim explained, on orders "which they could not disobey" from their German allies.

While Rommel had undoubtedly been a "great general," Naim was glad that "Montgomery was a better one and saved us."

Naim did not know what Rommel's role was regarding the two Libyan concentration camps during his command.

Early voting for 31st Zionist Congress shows:

'U.S.-Israeli ties solid'

Jerusalem Post Staff

Of the nearly 1 million registered Zionists in the U.S., some 220,000 have already cast their ballots for the 31st Zionist Congress to be held in December, Bernice Tannenbaum, chairman of the American Section of the World Zionist Organization, said yesterday in Jerusalem.

Addressing the World Zionist Council meeting, Tannenbaum termed the vote a "landmark exercise" which demonstrated that "despite Pollard and Inragate, the relationship [between the U.S. and Israel] is solid."

Tannenbaum noted that the removal of Aviem Sella from command of the Tel Nof air base and Israel's decision to impose limited sanctions against South Africa had defused criticism in Washington.

Regarding recently expressed

opinions that America is the best "promised land" for the Jews, Tannenbaum said: "Zionists know that without Israel, Judaism can wither on the vine and become a reed too thin to withstand the forces of assimilation."

The head of the Organization Department of the WZO, Prof. Izak Warshawski, who also addressed yesterday's meeting, said that democratic elections to the upcoming congress would be held in 21 countries.

The Jewish Agency Settlement Department announced yesterday that it had spent some \$600 million in the development of 152 settlements beyond the Green Line in the past 20 years.

Some \$400m. was spent in settlements in Jordan Rift, Gaza, the Golan Heights, and the balance in Judea and Samaria.

Appelfeld in race for Ribalow Prize

Aharon Appelfeld has been nominated for the Harold U. Ribalow Prize, one of the most prestigious awards for Anglo-Jewish fiction. The prize is awarded by *Hadassah Magazine* for English-language fiction of Jewish interest by a "writer worthy of distinction."

Appelfeld, who lives in Mevaseret Zion, teaches Hebrew literature at Ben-Gurion University of the

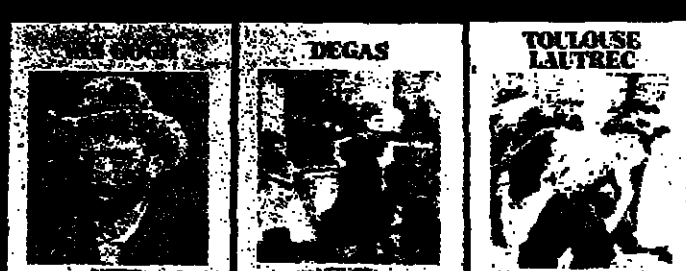
To the Land of the Canals, the novel for which he was nominated, is

about the journey of a half-Jewish boy and his mother to Ruthenia, the land of her birth, which leads him to his Jewish roots and ultimately to the brink of the Holocaust.

Other nominees for the prize are Alan Chuse, for *The Grandmother's Club*; Andrew Potok, for *My Life with Goya*; and Robert Koltun, for *Seanchanges*.

Harold Ribalow was a pioneer in Anglo-Jewish fiction; a critic and anthologist, he also wrote 15 books.

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Israel jumps on the superconductivity bandwagon

Lisa Perlman

PHYSICISTS around the world are jumping up and down like electrons about it. One meeting in New York devoted to it was dubbed the "Woodstock of physics." The latest issue of *Technion* calls it the "hottest field in science." Others add it is bringing about a technological revolution.

It is superconductivity. It is about converting sooty-black chunks of ceramic compounds into magnetically levitated superfast trains, into super-small but power-packed computers, into a power station in the Negev that could serve outlying areas via super-efficient transmission lines, and into a host of other applications.

Superconductivity was discovered in 1911 by Dutch physicist Heike Onnes who cooled the element mercury to near absolute zero (-273.15°C or, as designated by scientists, Kelvin) and found that at that temperature, the element had lost its resistance to electric current. This resistance in common conductors is responsible for a significant loss of energy when electricity is converted to heat.

Since then hundreds of chemical elements and compounds have been found to be superconductors near that temperature. But they had to be cooled, and until now this meant using rare and expensive liquid helium. The cost did not often justify the effort.

That is, until January this year. Then a research team headed by University of Houston physicist Paul

Chu discovered a ceramic compound combining barium, yttrium, copper and oxygen that became a superconductor at breakthrough temperatures of 93K, to be pushed to 98K within weeks. New records have been claimed almost weekly since.

Moreover, they achieved this using common warm liquid nitrogen as a coolant. Liquid nitrogen is 10 times cheaper and 20 times more effective than liquid helium, previously the only viable cooling agent.

Chu and others are optimistic about achieving the same results eventually at a balmy 300K, or room temperature.

ABOUT A month ago, Israeli teams achieved superconductivity at 230K.

Indeed, Israel was not slow to jump on the superconductivity bandwagon. Senior lecturer of physics at the Technion, Dr. Josef Ashkenazi, has been researching the field since 1975 and is credited with being the first physicist here to realize the value of U.S. and Japanese achievements in superconductivity.

He and his colleagues, Prof. Charles Kuper and research assistant Raquel Tyk, are enthusiastically involved on the theoretical side, analyzing, via computer, how superconductivity is achieved on the atomic and electronic level. "We tell the experimentalists where to look next," Ashkenazi says.

The enthusiasm has spread to the Ministry of Science and Development, too. On Monday, Director-General Ya'akov Sapir announced that the ministry had decided to set up a group to study the superconductivity situation here. Appointed to the group were Prof. Guy Deutscher



Technion research student Eyal Zilverstein works on ovens that produce superconductors from ceramics. Physics Prof. Emil Polturak prepares an experiment in low-temperature superconductivity. (Photos: Yair Nahor)

(Tel Aviv University), Prof. Meir Vager (Hebrew University) and the Technion's Kuper. They are to submit their findings in November.

In addition, the Binational Science Foundation recently issued a call for research proposals in the area of superconductivity. Joseph Van Zwaren, coordinator of Physics at the National Council for Research and Development, a ministry body, says that recent developments in the field have a "tremendous range of applications" here in a variety of fields — and right now.

"Israel cannot avoid the issue," he stresses, "or it might lose out," adding that Israel could quickly lose its competitive advantage in those areas where it leads today.

Dean of the Technion's Physics Faculty, Prof. Yakov Eckstein agrees: "The issue is not whether we can compete with the rest of the world; the fact is that we can't be in the scientific world if we don't participate in this work," he is quoted as saying in the late most recent issue of *Technion*.

A MAY meeting held on the subject held at the Hebrew University attracted some 250 participants — five times the number expected. They included academics and members of industry either actively involved or interested in the "most important scientific advance since the discovery of electricity." Fifteen papers were presented, showing an impressive amount of activity around the country, according to Van Zwaren.

The meeting examined theoretical aspects as well as the significance of superconductivity for Israel. This includes improving the efficiency of existing products and developing new ones, such as microelectronic devices; energy storage; in the field of medical technology, employing electromagnetism on diagnostic imaging devices to show cross-sections of human organs. Scientists believe there are many other military, commercial and high-tech possibilities.

Until recently, companies such as Elta and Tadiran expressed scepticism about Israel's ability to develop its own new devices. Israel is

systems-oriented, they said; why not leave it to Japan and the U.S. to do the inventing and we can take it from there? And, it is true, Israel does not have the resources to compete with these countries.

One industry source even cautioned that at this point anybody is capable of cooking up the basic ingredients for superconductors and achieving the right results. But the rub is finding immediate and appropriate applications.

Nevertheless, a turnaround in industry is evident as more and more companies are seeking their own ways to improve and update products and, most importantly, keep — or better — the edge they might have on the market.

Two hundred and twenty Israelis hooked up to Bitnet (the research network for scientists) are specifically interested in receiving the latest information on superconductivity.

Israel's decision to thrust itself full throttle into this new world is an important one. It must be made now, urges one industry observer, "or it will be too late."



The answer is blowing in the wind

Electric power produced from wind farms is the latest project for Galilee. Doron Pely reports.

IT MIGHT not be the answer to our ever-increasing electricity bills. But in an age when nuclear power plants score very low on the popularity scale, and coal dust and other pollutants rain on us from every power plant site, the answer, at least partially, is literally blowing in the wind — in the form of electricity-producing "wind farms."

Pumping electricity from wind is not a novel idea. Always on the back burner as a last resort, wind energy got its chance to show off in the early Seventies when soaring fossil fuel prices pushed up the cost of producing electricity and forced companies to take a hard look at various alternate power sources.

The centre for wind power research and experimentation is environment-conscious California where 95 per cent of the 15,000 existing wind turbines in America twirl along the Pacific coast.

Several dozen countries are interested in wind power, including Israel, where a survey conducted in the late Seventies revealed an exploitable potential of 1,000 megawatts (equal to the electricity output of a large conventional power station).

The most promising areas for wind energy are Upper Galilee, the Golan Heights and the Negev. "The Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure determined locations of high exploitability potential, and now we are working with interested private parties in those locations on the development of pilot projects and wind farms," says Dr. Avraham Arbib, director of research and development division at the ministry. Arbib sees wind energy as the most economically feasible alternative resource in this region.

So far, government and private efforts have resulted in three operating wind turbines. The first turbine was installed in 1985 near Alonim Habashan in the Golan Heights. The 55 kilowatt turbine, a project of Mei Golan, a local water cooperative, is capable of supplying enough electricity for 70 households. The second turbine (200 kw) was erected near Kibbutz Ma'alot (Tibna), and a third (225 kw) turbine was installed by the Israel Electric Corporation (IEC) in the Yodfat mountains. All the turbines are connected to the national electricity grid and IEC is obliged to purchase, at competitive prices, all the electricity they produce.

The second phase of the wind energy experiment will take place next year when a wind farm containing 10-15 turbines will be erected at the Alonim Habashan site. The project will be financed by Mei Golan.

The Energy Ministry is participating in several innovative research efforts by private companies aimed at producing low cost turbines. One such company in Sivan, whose inflatable turbine offers a radically different rotor design

university-industry-government audience at the Israeli Institute of Petroleum and Energy in Ramat Aviv.

Lynette describes his attitude towards wind power as cautiously optimistic, and hastens to follow up with the warning: "If you jump into it unprepared, it might be disastrous."

At today's prices and with current technology, wind power electricity costs twice as much as electricity produced by conventional coal-burning power stations. But this unfavourable situation is expected to change within the next decade, making wind energy a viable competitor.

"We are moving very slowly and with extreme caution, trying to avoid the mistakes of our predecessors in California," said Arbib.

The main enemy of wind power plants is bugs. Dead insects coat the blades of the rotors, causing a change in the shape of the air-foil and a marked drop in productivity. Scientists are concentrating on developing "rough surface" blades that will not be so severely affected by a decrease in the smoothness and shape. Electric generator engineers are directing their efforts at creating variable-speed machines that will not be so sensitive to the constant change in wind velocity.

Computers figure heavily in the progress of wind power. Signals from dozens of sensors along the rotor, gears and generator monitor the unit's condition constantly, controlling the blades and turning off the operation if wind velocity increases above safety limits. Computerized monitoring equipment makes it possible to operate remote sites from a central location and alert staff in the event of a breakdown.

Though hardly a polluting industry, wind farms have their problems. Some 4,000 whirling blades in a huge wind farm such as the one near the posh suburb of Palm Springs, California, can be a sore sight, and the resulting noise is not negligible. Lynette warned his audience to pay attention to residential reaction near proposed wind farms sites in Israel.

He puts most of the blame for the unglamorous record of electricity-producing wind farms at the feet of investors and engineers in the industry in America. "At its inception, the industry was not an honest venture but a tax shelter. It was approached with a cavalier attitude, and now we have a lot of humility in the engineering departments and a lot of junk out in the field," he said.

The results of this "cavalier attitude" were devastating. Wind power today produces less than 50 per cent of the energy promised. Investors lost a lot of money and the level of confidence in the industry plummeted. Manufacturers and investors learned their lesson the hard way.

"Now the industry is changing into a serious business. It's more institutionalized — less rich doctors and lawyers," said Lynette.

"Israel is doing exactly what it should be doing right now in terms of determining the locations of potential sites. You have the wind resource, and it should be exploited smartly," said Lynette.

The Science page is edited by Joanna Yehiel.

The Jerusalem Post Library — June 1987

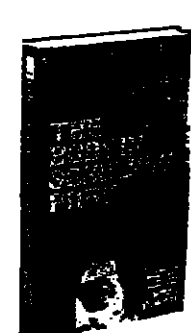
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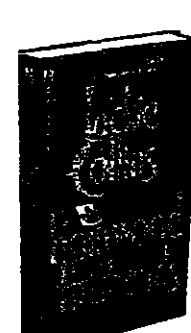
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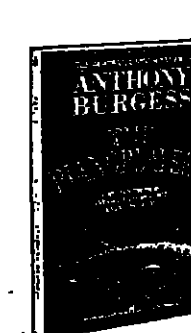
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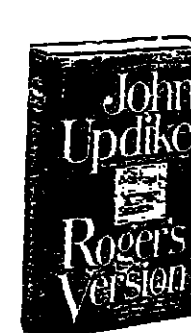
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OPPOSERS of the return of Arab villagers to Ikrit and Biram fear that the step will spark similar demands from hundreds of Arab Israelis who were evicted from at least a dozen other villages in 1948 and 1949.

The forcible transfer of Arabs from their homes to other, half-empty Arab villages inside Israel occurred mainly in the north, and is documented in files of the IDF and the State Archives.

Those skeletons of the past so far haven't been publicly resurrected by even the most vicious opponents of Ikrit and Biram's reestablishment. But Herut and Tehiya critics of the move alluded to those darker pages of history last week, saying that the return of Ikrit and Biram residents could create an undesirable "precedent."

But Minister-without-Portfolio Moshe Arens, who is spearheading the drive to reestablish the villages, insists that the case of Ikrit and Biram is "unique," and would not constitute a precedent in any way. Arens' stance is supported by former Arab affairs adviser Shmuel Toledano, who researched the issue in the 1970s for then prime minister Golda Meir.

However, it's unclear if evacuees from other Arab villages who remained in Israel may now demand to return to their home villages.

But one Christian Arab who was expelled in 1948 from the village of al-Bassa - today Shilomi - told *The Jerusalem Post* that he thought such appeals were unlikely and generally impractical.

"I don't think this (Ikrit and Biram's restoration) will open the gates to any similar demands by other displaced Arabs," said Zaid Nikola, whose family was moved by the Hagana in 1948 from al-Bassa to Mizra.

Biram, Ikrit return 'no precedent'

Elaine Fletcher, Benny Morris and David Rudge

"The case of Biram and Ikrit is exceptional," added Nikola, 43, who now lives in Kafr Yasif. "Ikrit and Biram are the only two villages that I know of where virtually all residents stayed in their homes. In the other villages, most of the people fled across the border and only a few remained behind."

Only 12 families of al-Bassa's original 4,000 inhabitants were still in the villages when the Hagana came in summer 1948 to evict them, said Nikola.

About half of those families since have accepted compensation for their confiscated lands. The old village lands, meanwhile, are now taken up by Jewish settlements and an industrial district.

"Every time I pass by there I cry. I would like to return to my home," said Nikola. "But there are so few of us. In whose name could we appeal and to whom?"

"There is no way that the former village of Bassa would put in appeals to return to their homes."

NIKOLA'S STORY illustrates many of the key points raised by Arens' minority affairs office and by Toledano in their research into the issue of whether the return of Ikrit and Biram residents would create a legal precedent.

"To the best of our knowledge, there is no parallel to this case," said

one Arens aide. "It's not only a matter of feeling. We checked it with attorneys and specialists and that was their conclusion."

"Ikrit and Biram were ... promised they would be able to go back. They are two villages that have made a case for 40 years, a case that has been a part of Israeli life for 40 years. There is no case that is at all close to those two cases."

Toledano gives a point-by-point breakdown of why he believes Ikrit and Biram are unique:

- Residents of Ikrit won a 1951 High Court of Justice ruling that they had a right to return - a ruling that acknowledged promises made by the IDF in 1948 that the evacuation was only temporary. The Ikrit ruling, also applicable to Biram, was circumvented only when the IDF slapped a closure order on two villages in September 1951 for security reasons.

- Other Arab villages were evacuated after they were left largely empty because most inhabitants had fled during the 1948 war. In the case of Ikrit and Biram, nobody fled. All the villagers and their descendants thus became citizens of the state.

- Ikrit and Biram residents greeted the IDF soldiers entering the town with bread and salt, the traditional symbols of welcome. In the case of other villages, Arab residents generally fled in the face of the



Ikrit villagers in churchyard.

(David Rubinger)

Jewish advance, and only later filtered back.

- Other evacuated villages were demolished right after being taken over. Ikrit and Biram residents immediately began appeals and legal proceedings, and thus the village sites weren't demolished until 1951.

- Some residents of Ikrit and Biram even joined the army to demonstrate their loyalty to the state.

- In virtually all other cases, Jewish settlements, hospitals or factories were built precisely on the sites where the evacuated Arab villages had stood. Only in the case of Ikrit

and Biram could the old Arab towns be reestablished on their original spots - "and not one Jew will have to give one dunam of land being worked back to the villages," he said.

In contrast, al-Bassa's village site is partly covered by an industrial district.

Zakariya, a Jerusalem corridor village evacuated by the IDF, is now Moshav Zecharya. Ex-residents live in Ramle, Faridiyah, an Arab town near Safad from which several hundred Arabs were evicted in February 1949, today is Kibbutz Farod.

The Arab town of Saffuriya near Nazareth, is now Moshav Tzipori. The 4,000 Saffuriya inhabitants fled the town during a July 1948 battle for its control, and only 400 residents filtered back later. They were moved in 1949 to Nazareth, Ar-Raina, Kafr Kanna and Ilut, according to minority affairs office documents.

"All the stones of the village were removed," said Toledano. "On the same spot Tzipori was established. There is no Saffuriya - only crazy people could think of a new injustice such as moving the moshav."

BUT DESPITE assertions that the experience of Ikrit and Biram residents is unique, it is not entirely different from that of Arabs evicted from certain villages.

For instance, the Arab village of Khissas in the Galilee panhandle was friendly to neighboring Jewish settlements in the mandate days, government documents show. Villagers in the settlement of several hundred people provided the Hagana with intelligence information and helped Jewish settlers make land purchases.

Nevertheless, in June 1949, the 55 Khissas villagers remaining in their homes, were forcibly moved to Akbara, just south of Safad.

Soon afterward, Mapam MK

Eliezer Frai protested the treatment of the Khissas refugees to the Knesset. He said they had been surrounded at midnight by IDF units, forced into trucks "with brutality, with kicks, curses and maltreatment" and dumped on a bare, sun-scorched hillside near the village of Akbara.

In the western Galilee village of Ghabisiyah, most of the villagers stayed put when the Jewish troops entered in May, 1948. But they still were evicted to other Galilee villages. In 1949, the villagers lost a petition to the High Court of Justice asking to return.

In another parallel to Ikrit and Biram, Nikola claims that the 12 families who remained in al-Bassa were initially told by the Hagana that they would be allowed to return to their villages.

Still, only in the case of Ikrit and Biram has a promise of a "right to return" been officially acknowledged down through the years by a wide range of political leaders as well as by the High Court of Justice, said Toledano.

Toledano researched the subject just prior to a July, 1972 government debate on Ikrit and Biram. Although he recommended that the settlements be reestablished, the government decision was negative.

Premier Meir, too, seemed to fear that reestablishing Ikrit and Biram would set a precedent for dozens of other Arab villages to spring back into existence, said Toledano.

"It was the fear of a woman from the Diaspora that thousands of refugees would march back from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to Saffuriya. She had no idea that it was finished, that the towns do not exist and that the refugees are not here any more. They are scattered all over the Middle East."

Antoine Fattal - A man who sought peace

Elyakim Rubinstein

The agreement demonstrated both inside and outside the U.S. that we had no intention of remaining in Lebanon permanently. Above all, it laid the foundation for the security zone which, with minor modifications (warranted by the absence of a ruling authority in Lebanon), became accepted as the concept for the Lebanese-Israeli border. Since the summer of 1983, Israel-U.S. relations have reached dimensions unknown in the past.

Heading the Lebanese delegation to the negotiations was the distinguished ambassador, Antoine Fattal, who died in Beirut last month. His

death earned a small item in an American newspaper. According to the report, he succumbed to a heart attack - but perhaps it would be more accurate to call it heartbreak. Of noble mind and pure heart, Fattal, the Lebanese patriot, was a cultured man who sought peace. It is only fitting to pay him tribute.

ANTOINE FATTAL belonged to a small Christian community in Lebanon, the Syrian Catholics. He was born in Egypt and early in his career worked as a journalist. In the '40s in Paris, he studied Semitic languages, including Hebrew, of which he retained some knowledge.

At the Lebanese Foreign Ministry, he reached the rank of director-general and for many years was

ambassador to the Vatican, an important position in the delicate fabric of Lebanon's external relations.

At the end of 1983, already retired, he was recalled for the negotiations with Israel and took the personal risk of being photographed with Israelis. The predominant impression he conveyed was one of culture and old-world charm: this was neither pretence nor appeasement. He guarded Lebanon's vital interests unflinchingly, despite his limited access to the embroiled court of Amin Jemayel and his advisers.

He had a profound knowledge of international law, (on which he wrote some important essays) and was probably sorely disappointed at not being appointed to the International Court of Justice in The Hague. Intra-

Arab politics has not dealt kindly with Lebanon in these matters.

Fattal's language was French, and he appeared to be more comfortable in it than in any other. Without ignoring the Arab realities which he understood and appreciated, he seems to have sought the roots of Lebanon also in the ancient Phoenician civilizations of the north-eastern Mediterranean, which prompted him to communicate with us in an historical context.

His interest in the problems of minorities was expressed in a book he wrote on minorities in the Moslem world. He was an avid observer of the Israeli scene and accepted Hebrew textbooks from us to refresh his memory of the language.

THE OTHER impression he gave was one of sadness, of a permanent sorrow etched on his face and reflected in his eyes by Lebanon's situation and by the difficulty of conducting negotiations on behalf of a country lacking a central government, whose delegations comprised a mosaic of communities (which he managed to steer smoothly).

Even on the day of the signature of the agreement when it looked as if there was cause for joy, his heart must have predicted the worst.

His speech at the ceremony alongside David Kimche and Morris Draper, showed great caution, tempered with a spark of hesitant hope.

Imprinted in my memory is my personal leave-taking from him that day, away from the cameras. The embrace, the kiss, expressed an embarrassed brotherhood, forged in the common effort invested over six months in a better future which, as it

turned out, did not come to pass.

What has also remained is the memory of our last meeting, in the winter of 1984, shortly after Lebanon annulled the agreement. Reuven Merhav, our envoy in Lebanon at the time, and I paid Fattal a brief visit at his home in the Christian quarter of Beirut. There was no electricity, the elevator didn't work. We climbed the stairs to the flat where Fattal sat sheltered amid his books and the portraits of two popes. The sadness on his face seemed more pronounced than ever. His quiet sorrow was the cry of the victims of Lebanon's tragedy.

No one knows if Lebanon will recover. But if there are more people like Antoine Fattal who cherish their country's sovereignty but are nevertheless open to the requisite understanding with others - then perhaps all hope is not lost.

(By arrangement with Ha'aretz)

IN THE WEEKS since Tunisia broke off diplomatic relations with Iran, scarcely a day has passed without a warning, either in the press or from a government official, of the threat posed to the country by Islamic extremists. Details of the beliefs and aims of the "underground" network of Khomineist agents, that the government said it had uncovered at the end of March, have been given exhaustive media coverage, in an apparent effort to convince the Tunisian people of the dangers from which they had such a narrow escape.

The authorities have been particularly keen to stress the alleged link between the fundamentalists and Iran, which is said to have supplied funds and propaganda to the militants. Interior Minister Zine El Abidine Ben Ali last month told the Chamber of Deputies that severing relations with Iran had been necessary because the Iranian embassy in Tunis had been turned into "an active centre for the export of the Khomineist revolution and for the recruitment of religious extremists."

Observers here have voiced scepticism as to the extent of Iranian involvement in the fundamentalist movement. They say that while some Tunisian militants may have had contacts with Iran and sympathized with its policies, Shi'ite doctrines are unlikely to have much appeal among most Tunisians, who belong to the Sunni branch of Islam.

Tunisia: the threat from Khomineini

Simon Ingram/Tunis

IN RECENT years, fundamentalist influence has been most noticeable on university campuses, where Islamic militants have fought a running feud with leftists. The situation has worsened lately, with a series of student strikes, organized by the fundamentalists, causing considerable disruption to classes.

Elsewhere, the extent of religious extremism in Tunisia is hard to gauge. Since it first attracted attention in the late 1970's, it has gained a certain following among young lower-middle class people in the capital, and also in the south of the country. The militants are apparently well-

organized: despite a round-up of the leaders of the Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI) and other smaller fringe groups over the last few weeks, around 1,000 fundamentalists still managed to catch the authorities off guard last month by staging a demonstration in central Tunis to press demands for the release of the MTI leader, Rached Ghannouchi.

Diplomats here say the current crackdown is a close personal concern of President Bourguiba, who has succeeded in giving Tunisia a distinctly secular outlook since he became its leader after independence in 1956. The trigger for the new tougher line seems to have been both the deteriorating situation in the universities, and an interior ministry report compiled in March that warned of the danger of an outburst of unrest similar to the bread riots of January 1984.

The fundamentalists have not been the only victims. Other critics of the government, including members of the recognised opposition parties, trade unionists and officials at the Tunisian League of Human Rights, have also been detained and questioned, sometimes for lengthy periods. The press has suffered too. The latest casualty was the independent weekly *Er-Rai*, which closed recently after successive issues of the paper were seized from the presses.

The security-conscious atmosphere is clearly visible on the streets of Tunis. Motorists are routinely stopped at security roadblocks at night to have their papers checked, and the clatter of a police surveillance helicopter over the city attracts little attention these days.

Such high-profile precautions hardly seem to square with Tunisia's image as one of the most easy-going countries in the Arab world. That the authorities consider them necessary is probably due to a combina-

tion of social and political considerations.

The economy took a dive last year, as a result of a drop in oil revenues, a disastrous agricultural harvest, and a poor tourist season. The effects from these factors and from an IMF package of economic reforms now being instituted by the government have produced high prices and shortages in the shops, and mounting unemployment.

Among the country's ruling circles, fears that these problems could provoke popular unrest are coupled with concern for the future after Bourguiba's death. The president is now in his mid-eighties.

The twilight years of the Bourguiba era are being watched with great interest abroad. The United States and France are Tunisia's closest Western allies, and both governments will prevent Libya exploiting any signs of instability across the border. The feeling here seems to be that Tunisia is today a country where a little subversion could go a long way, and that might prove a temptation Colonel Gaddafi would find hard to resist. (London Observer Service)

Iranian call for end to war

Farzad Bazoft

FOR THE first time, the leader of the only formal opposition party still allowed in Iran has called on Ayatollah Khomeini to end the Gulf War.

In an open letter to Khomeini, former prime minister Mehdi Bazargan criticized the government for making no attempt to end the seven-year-old war with Iraq.

Bazargan heads the Freedom Movement. He is also the chairman of the Association for the Defence of Iranian Peoples' Rights and Freedom and members of this group signed the letter which was recently distributed in Iran.

The letter says: "The Iranian people are asking why their leadership has given its top priority to prolonging the war while those same people responsible for the war have told them, if the war is prolonged, the only benefit is for countries like

Israel and the superpowers."

While people have been told to fight the war to their last reserves to safeguard Islam, important issues such as health, education and housing have been ignored by the government, it adds and asks: "What is the purpose of all these killings?"

Bazargan was appointed as Iran's first prime minister by Khomeini after the Islamic Revolution in 1979. He resigned in protest against the storming of the U.S. embassy, a decision welcomed by Iran's fundamentalist clerics.

According to an Iranian source, Bazargan has recently held a number of meetings with Ali Khamenei, the Iranian president, to discuss the issues raised in his letter.

Bazargan, a liberal, has come under fire from the clerics for his views on the aims of the Islamic Revolution.

(Observer News Service)

The Middle East Page is edited by Yehuda Litani.

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מכרז אילן

Home-grown in Atlanta

By PINHAS LANDAU

Some Israelis dream of owning large homes, be they "villas" or "cottages." Some actually do possess them, in up-market neighborhoods like Savoyon and Herzliya Pithach, and in new developments on the other side of the Green Line.

Even the latter groups, however, know that their homes usually compare unfavorably to the townhouses and suburban mansions that they see and visit on trips abroad. But even these seem shabby and hovel-like, when compared with the castles of the nouveau riches sunbelt Americans who live in what have come to be known as "megahouses."

The Wall Street Journal recently took a look at the latest fashion in housing for the new Southern gentry who have made big money in the boom times that have obtained below the Mason-Dixon line in the last decade or more. Nowhere has this opulence been more evident than around Atlanta, Georgia, which has come a long way since the Civil War ordeal by fire that destroyed the town and was memorialized in *Gone With The Wind*.

"The forces of new money and conspicuous consumption have united in and around the Georgian state capital to create a new breed of house that puts Tara to shame," the paper reports, in an unusually breathless style. "It begins at about 12,000 square feet (1,115 square metres, for those who prefer metric measurements) or about where the Virginia colonial mansions of Washington and Jefferson left off. It is filled with jacuzzi bathtubs. It is flooded with marble. It is a megahouse."

If that's not clear, the following details should help. "The standard state-of-the-art megahouse comes with a marble-floored foyer that soars at least two stories, a master bedroom that comes straight out of *Dynasty*, a dining-room perfect for banquets and a living-room suitable for full-court basketball."

These modest abodes start from the very reasonable price of \$500,000 - "the price that generally separates megahouses from just plain houses" - and rises to as much as several million.

Whether you get value for money is, of course, a matter of opinion. There is also the question of what you do with the place, once its yours: "It's more than one needs," admitted one new megahouse dweller. "But, if one wants it and once can do it, why not?" Why not, indeed, since his \$2 million house, set into a riverside bluff, "boasts a poolside 'spa' with waterfall, a wet bar in the master bedroom, a courtyard made of 50,000 bricks and an elevator to connect the five floors."

All that, however, does not answer the question of what use can be made of the facilities. The owner himself is reportedly "unsure" since, as he notes, "I don't care how big your house is - you spend 90 per cent of your time in the living room."

But the real point of the whole thing, as the builders of the monsters are very well aware, is the instant status that they bring, and that explains the more way out extras like the fake family crests that some of the megahouses sport.

Others of the newly rich seek to imitate those who made their piles

long ago, so that there are brick colonials with pillars, stucco Mediterraneans with gargoyles, but hardly any contemporaries. People who have arrived in Atlanta "require more of a Rhet and Scarlett fee," noted one builder, and that's a feeling one can sympathize with.

All this, ye peasants, is nothing when compared to what megahouses offer in the master-bedroom suites. "Standard features include living-room-size 'sitting areas'; his-and-her dressing rooms; and his-and-her bathrooms that would make even a movie star envious." This quote, we would stress, comes from an objective newspaper, not a sales pamphlet.

The point is that "there's no way you can put too much into a master bedroom," as one of the builders sagely opined. He should know, because his current project "has a 344 square metre master suite, including a 'her' bathroom with fireplace, wine rack and seven metre high vaulted ceiling."

One feature of planning these homes that Israelis may still recognize, despite the differences in scale, is the gap between starting point and end product. One couple ended up expanding their living room to 112 square metres, causing them to double the size of the whole house. However, the original plan only called for a measly 650 square metres, really a bit poky when you come to think about it.

What causes such dramatic changes of plan - beyond, dare one suggest, claustrophobia? The answer given by the lady in question was plain enough: "It began with him wanting a large den."



A shopping street amid the suburban bliss.

(Hanoch Gutmann)

NEIGHBOURHOODS/Ken Schachter

Anglos, affluence in Sharon

Between the hours of 7 and 9 in the morning and 4:30 and 7 at night, Ramat Hasharon could be mistaken for any other bustling Tel Aviv bedroom community. Commuters from Herzliya and Ra'anana add to the traffic jam generated by the numerous two-car families within Ramat Hasharon itself. Veterans complain that Rehov Sokolov looks like one long parking lot.

When rush hour subsides, however, the city recaptures a measure of its agrarian past. For it is this small town atmosphere - within easy reach of Tel Aviv's business centre - that sets Ramat Hasharon apart.

HISTORY: Established in 1923 as a moshav called Town of Peace, farmers raised dairy cattle, poultry and tended orchards. The moshav's commercial life centered on Rehov Bialik and Rehov Weizman. Seven years after its founding, the moshav took the name Ramat Hasharon and through World War II, farmers found a ready market in Tel Aviv and among Allied soldiers for the vegetables, which by then had become the area's primary crop. When Israel declared independence, Ramat Hasharon had a population of 1,000. Soon afterward, the city swelled with new immigrants lodged in *maabara*, or transit camps, and veterans who flocked to newly built developments like Neve Magen and Neve Ram.

Today, Ramat Hasharon has a population estimated at 40,000 in a 6,000-dunam residential area shaped roughly like a chunky boot. The remainder of its 19,000 dunams is

still devoted to agriculture, particularly to the growing of strawberries that proud growers claim are the best in the country. Perhaps it's because of this continued link to the land that Ramat Hasharon remains categorized as a private settlement, or *moshava*, rather than a city.

Says former mayor Menachem Sherman: "We don't want to be a big city. People want to live in a small village."

ENVIRONMENT: Ramat Hasharon is bounded by Derech Haifa on the west, Herzliya on the north, Hod Hasharon on the east and Kfar Hayarok on the south. A drive to central Tel Aviv takes between a half hour and an eternity, depending on the time of day.

Young, affluent and Anglicized are three key adjectives in Ramat Hasharon life. Although it has two social centres for the elderly, only about 5 per cent of Ramat Hasharon's population is over 65.

A stroll along the main commercial street, Sokolov, reveals that English runs a close second to Hebrew among residents of an area that has drawn a disproportionate number of Americans, Britons and South Africans.

Affluence is clear from the trendy shops and coffee houses to the villas and pricey cars. For the most part, skyrocketing real estate prices have

made this a bastion of managers, professionals and high-level government officials.

FACILITIES: In the Israel Tennis Centre, Ramat Hasharon boasts the nation's finest such facility. With 74 composition-surface courts and a 5,000-seat stadium, the centre attracts Grand Prix tournaments, while nurturing the hopes of youngsters vying to be the next Amos Mansdorf or Shlomo Glickstein.

City Hall devotes about 60 per cent of its budget toward the school system, regarded as one of the country's best. The Hayarok School has one of the finest names in agriculture.

Youths also are served by the many small parks, which dot Ramat Hasharon, a multi-purpose gymnasium, four youth centres and a music conservatory.

For grownups, there's a country club, a new auditorium for plays and concerts, and the Rav Meir shopping mall on Derech Haifa.

Those residents tired of fighting the traffic can catch Egged and Dan buses to Tel Aviv University, the Carmel Market, Kfar Sava, Ra'anana, Herzliya and the Tel Aviv Central Bus Station.

HOUSING: Despite stratospheric prices, demand far exceeds supply on the housing market. Villas sell for from \$150,000 to \$1 million and penthouses go for from \$250,000 to \$300,000. Three bedroom apartments start at \$85,000. On the commercial side, a 40-square metre shop with an equally large basement rents for \$2,000 a month.

But, as one real estate agent with an arm's length waiting list confessed, it's all academic. "We don't have any," she said.

WORLD BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Natwest sets aside \$760m. for bad debts

LONDON (Reuters). - National Westminster Bank, Britain's largest, in terms of assets, said yesterday it would set aside some \$760 million when its first half results are published next month to cover potentially bad Third World loans.

The move will bring total provisions against some \$4.6b. of exposure to 35 countries in payment difficulties or rescheduling from 13 to 29.8 per cent.

The move is the first by a British bank, but comes in the wake of similar steps taken by several U.S. banks, including America's largest, Citicorp. Banking analysts had expected British banks to follow the U.S. lead, especially after the Bank of England recommended such a course.

THE U.S. CURRENT ACCOUNT deficit narrowed to \$37.12 billion in the January-March quarter on a balance-of-payments basis from a revised record \$37.97b. in the fourth quarter of 1986, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

Previously, the department said, the fourth-quarter deficit was \$36.84b, bringing the full-year 1986 figure to \$141.35 b.

The department said the merchandise trade deficit fell to \$38.3b. in the first quarter from \$38.6b. in the final three months of 1986. Exports increased \$1.2b. to \$58.2b. while imports rose \$900 million, to \$96.5b.

JAPAN TURNED IN its worst economic performance in 12 years in 1986/87, as the strong yen dealt a sharp blow to exporters.

The Economic Planning Agency said yesterday that economic growth slowed to 2.6 per cent in the year ended March 31, from 4.3 per cent the previous fiscal year, despite a stronger-than-expected rise in the closing months of 1986-87.

Last year's performance was well below the government's 3 per cent forecast and was the worst results since 1974/75, when the economy contracted by 0.4 per cent under the impact of the first oil shock. But government economists said the worst may now be over. Japanese consumers are starting to spend more.

TEXACO INC. on Monday asked the Texas Supreme Court to reverse a lower court ruling that upheld an \$11 billion judgement against the oil giant won by Pennzoil Co.

The request asked the Supreme Court to either reverse the appeals court's February ruling upholding the massive judgement, order the case retried or lower damages against Texaco to \$512 million plus interest, Texaco attorney James B. Sales said.

DEVELOPMENTS/Miriam Shenkar

Signs of a pick-up in housing

The prolonged slump in the housing market may be finally bottoming out. Figures released by the Central Bureau of Statistics earlier this week showed that the supply of housing, sales of homes, as well as the number of completed homes available for sale were higher in the first three months of this year than in the last quarter of 1986. The year-on-year figures, however, still show declines on the whole.

According to the bureau, the supply of housing grew by 5,420 units in the January-March quarter, a gain of 4.7 per cent from the October-December 1986 increase but still off 10.3 per cent from a year ago. The number of home sales was up 10.2 per cent from the previous

quarter and up 9.8 from a year ago to 1,816.

The number of homes completed in the quarter but not yet sold was 2.1 per cent higher than the previous three-month period, to 3,604 units, but was down 17.9 per cent from a year earlier.

The survey, conducted in 24 cities and large towns where most construction is done by private concerns, found that sales of housing still under construction had risen from the previous quarter, while sales of completed homes had dropped.

RASSCO, the financially troubled construction company, said Monday that it has arranged in principle for construction loans from Bank Leumi and Bank Hapoalim to enable it to proceed on \$40 million in new construction projects. The projects will be constructed on lands in greater Jerusalem, Mevaseret Yerushalayim, Holon, Petah Tikva, and the Kiryat around Haifa Bay.

In a notice to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, Rassco Rural and Suburban Settlement Co. said the projects would each be financially independent of each other and closely supervised by the lending banks. Rassco said it was too early to give a timetable for the projects.

The loans are part of a rescue package worked out between Rassco and the Treasury last August.

ISRAELIS LIVING IN NEW YORK are being encouraged to sell their property back at home through advertisements in the local Hebrew weekly *Yisrael Shelanu*. The ads have also attracted interest from American Jews who own property in Israel, according to Shmuel Shay, a Ramat Gan broker behind the campaign.

The revival of the local property market plus the legitimization of *yerida* - emigration from Israel - have been the chief reasons for the ads' success, says Shay. Increasing numbers of Israelis living abroad have come to realize they're not going to return to Israel.



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Tel Aviv: Netzah Israel, 11 Netzah Israel, 228548; Bavi, 1 Uziel, corner 10 Toledo, 440552.
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Beer-Sheva 76333 Netanya 223333
Carmiel 988555 Netanya 223333
Dan Region 761111 Petah Tikva 923111
Elar 72333 Rehovot 451333
Hadera 322333 Rishon LeZion 94233
Haifa 512223 Safed 30333
Hatzor 336333 Tel Aviv 545011
Holon 803133 Tiberias 770111

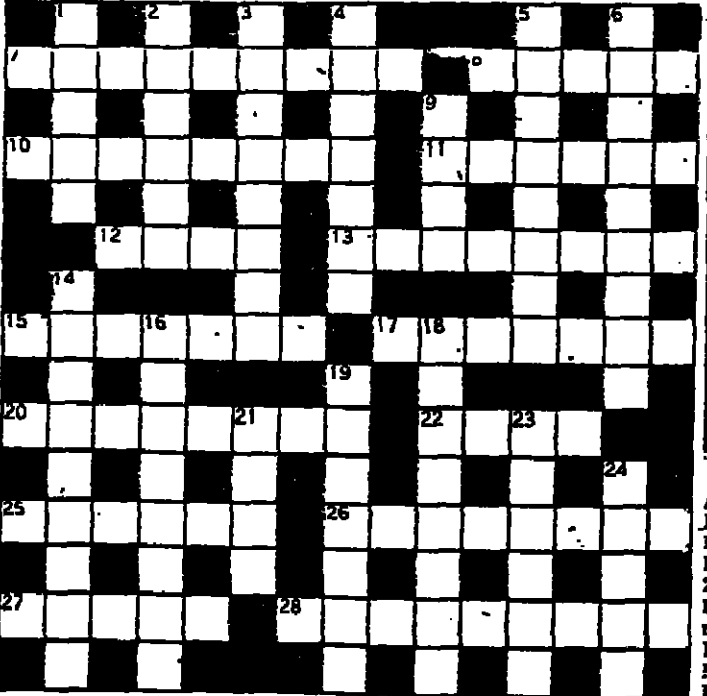
* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.
Eman - Emotional First Aid. Tel. Jerusalem 227171, Tel. Aviv 5461111 (children) youth 03-2611123, Haifa 672222, Beer-Sheva 48111, Netanya 32316.
Rappa Crisis Centre (24 hours), for help call Tel Aviv, 246515, Jerusalem - 246524, and Haifa 382811.
The National Poison Control Centre at Rambam Hospital, phone (04) 525225, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information in cases of poisoning.
Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433500 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
7 Go on trip North? No South East (9)
8 Flighty creatures in off-duty clothes? (5)
10 No score on grass yet it comes up on the pools (8)
11 Comedious, we hear, but unhealthily damp (6)
12 Some leaden types make a superficial impression (4)
13 The language of these people in high places? (8)
15 Tale of derelict manor next to church (7)
17 Presumptuous striker, for example (7)

20 Single reed blown in the wind (8)
22 Retreat for nap, say (4)
23 Clods of drivers (6)
25 A job to lose a twopenny piece - some people rub it in (8)
27 Fancy a sea-film? (5)
28 He, a smoker could possibly have a brogue at last (9)

4 Extra premium required for working in docks? (7)
5 Merry King's rule for salad (8)
6 Makes me cry, this school subject (9)
9 Harvest to cut (4)
14 Fuel store improves a cold life (10)
16 The few needed by brass bandsmen? (3,5)
18 Love boatmen behind the rose-bay? (8)
19 Waste of an award (7)
21 Architect's name has changed (4)
23 Common lump sum always found in India (6)
24 Range of Danse Macabre (5)



Yesterday's Solutions

ACROSS
1 Summer, 4 Sals, 8 Dodge, 9 Ignoble, 10 Triumph, 11 Plot, 12 Tip, 14 Afar, 15 Rife, 18 Era, 21 Echo, 23 Liberal, 24 Dossier, 26 Bison, 27 Erect, 28 Recede.
DOWN
1 Sedate, 2 Midriff, 3 Evermore, 4 Stak, 5 Label, 6 Sleuth, 7 Right, 13 Probe, 16 Foresee, 17 Meddle, 19 Alert, 20 Plunge, 22 Haste, 24 Gift.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS
3 Two pints
8 Renegade
9 Hard wearing fabric
10 Deserted
11 Pair
14 Winning serve
16 Straw hat
17 Small fowl
18 Disorderly crowd
20 Shed feathers
24 Saunterer
25 Soup
26 Storyteller
27 Fishing boat

DOWN
1 Austrian composer
2 Bag
3 Wading bird
4 Stationary
6 Infatigable
7 Mackintosh
12 Personalised initials
13 Physically fit
14 Upper limb
15 Recede
21 Commercial vehicle
22 Reluctance to work
23 Cornish market towns

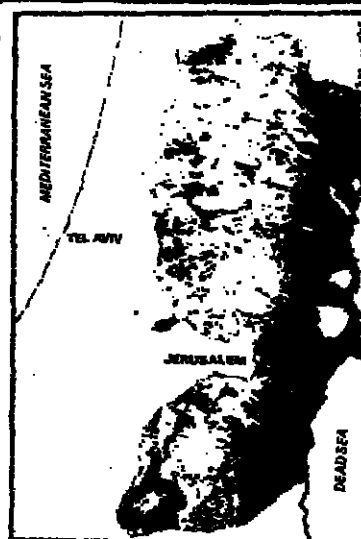
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سكرا فالا

MARKET PLACE

PINHAS LANDAU

Private medicine goes public

Today sees the initial public offering of Assuta Ltd., and this is not merely a new face among public companies. It is the first public appearance of private medicine, Israeli style.

The history behind the offering goes back to March 1983, when Mashab-Health Services and Institutes Ltd., bought the majority stake of Assuta in a share-swap deal that gave it 54.48 per cent of Assuta and Assuta 10 per cent of Mashab. The other 90 per cent of Mashab is owned by Medial Ltd., which is itself a wholly-owned subsidiary of Clal Real Estate and Investments, an exchange-listed company that is part of the Clal group.

After today's issue, Mashab will hold only 42.8 per cent of Assuta's equity, and the hospital will be an affiliate, rather than a subsidiary. But Mashab will remain by far the largest single shareholder. 25 per cent is being offered to the public and a further 1.8 per cent to staff.

By recent standards on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, this is a straightforward issue. The company is issuing 123.2 million shares of NIS 0.01 nominal value, in units of 100 shares each at a minimum price of NIS 3.60 in a tender offer that opens this morning at 8.30 and closes at 12.30 p.m.

This minimum price should be compared with 1986 earnings per share (after adjustment for the new shares being issued) of NIS 0.114, giving a historic price/earnings ratio of over 30. However, profits and revenues have been rising sharply in the last several years, and the first quarter of 1987 showed revenues of NIS 7m., compared with the year earlier period of NIS 4m.

The issue values the company at NIS 12.1 m. before the new issue, based on its profit potential and on a professional estimate of the value of its land (in the heart of residential Tel Aviv) at \$9 million, and a potential tax bill on the profits of sale of this real estate of only 12 per cent.

The absence of warrants and other frilleries makes the calculations regarding the share value easier than usual.

Nevertheless, investors should beware of two factors: The new fashion of tender issues means that the underwriters pitch the minimum price very low, in the expectation that more will be paid. Secondly, and consequently, the public has been paying ridiculous prices for new issues, offering premiums of 20, 30 and even 60 per cent over the minimum price, and then getting a bloody nose when the shares they bought open up by going down.

The Ganei Hadar Ltd. issue made last Thursday on the parallel market is the latest case in point. Investors paid NIS 77 per unit of shares and warrants, compared with the minimum price of NIS 54 - i.e., 43 per cent premium - but when the shares opened yesterday they plunged over 30 per cent, equal to roughly the minimum price.

The Assuta issue is set to take in at least NIS 4.3m. at the minimum price, which will leave the company with NIS 3.8m. Of this, NIS 2.1m. will go toward continuing the refurbishment of the hospital premises during this year and next. A chunk will be used for buying equipment and NIS 1m. will be added to working capital.

The company made a rights issue last year and raised NIS 1.7m., mostly for construction and equipment with the rest going to boost working capital.

Assuta's 1986 balance sheet totaled NIS 13.3m. (inflation-adjusted), of which slightly over half is in shareholders' equity. When the proceeds of the new issue are added, the company will be in an embarrassingly strong position, and it intends to use this to expand rapidly. Its borrowing power will also be utilized, especially to buy sophisticated equipment.

On the profit and loss front, the company's NIS 1m. loss in 1984 was replaced by profits of NIS 400,000 and NIS 500,000 in 1985 and 1986, respectively (all in December 1986-adjusted constant shekels). The net rate of return on equity was 11.5 per cent last year and 9.3 per cent in 1985. This year, with the huge growth in equity, it will probably go down, but the long-term prospects can only be enhanced by the massive infusion of new capital now being undertaken.

The operating system of the hospital, as described in the prospectus, is of great interest. It is worth pointing out that the hospital is a subcontractor for all the major health funds, and this provides a large proportion of its income. Private doctors also buy Assuta's services, if they are surgeons, while the doctors who use the clinics and out-patient services are self-employed and present bills to Assuta for their work.

Mashab has undertaken not to sell any of its holding in the year following the issue, and no more than 13.33 per cent per year in the following two years. Clal Real Estate has committed itself not to engage in competition with Assuta, unless the proposal has been discussed and rejected by Assuta in first.

Hapoalim cuts 2 key interest rates

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

Bank Hapoalim is lowering interest rates on both personal and business borrowing, starting today. The bank's move is an unusually rapid response to the low May consumer price index released on Monday and the expectation of continued low inflation in the coming months.

Bank Leumi also announced further interest rate reductions yesterday, after quickly getting in a first shot - cheaper short-term loans for business customers - within hours of the release of May's inflation figure. The new rates at Leumi only take effect on Sunday.

But neither bank, nor its rivals, has shown any indication of cutting the prime rate for borrowers, currently at 18 per cent per annum. Some analysts contend that the banks are reluctant to cut this mainly symbolic rate, used as the base for a variety of other rates. They say the banks fear possible difficulties if, later in the year, higher inflation forces them to push rates back up.

Hapoalim is cutting interest rates on personal overdrafts in its Super Current Accounts by between 1.8 and 3 percentage points per annum. Customers with overdraft facilities up to NIS 2,000 will pay a minimum

of 27.6 per cent per annum, down from 29.4 per cent previously. Those with a facility of up to NIS 3,000 will pay at least 32.4 per cent instead of 35.4 per cent. For larger amounts, up to NIS 150,000, the charge will begin at 38.4 per cent per annum, against the previous 41.4 per cent.

Fixed-rate loans for up to three months, available to business customers in amounts of NIS 50,000-150,000, will drop from 36 to 30 per cent per annum. These loans are obtainable so long as the bank has the funds available to lend.

Leumi is cutting interest on its Zechu Yeter personal overdrafts from 36 to 33 per cent for customers with larger facilities of up to NIS 5,000. Smaller overdrafts of up to NIS 1,700 remain at 30 per cent.

As reported in yesterday's *Jerusalem Post*, Leumi has announced a drop in the cost of interest on purchase using the revolving credit facility of Visa credit cards. This will drop to 33 from 36 per cent.

Neither Leumi nor Hapoalim have changed their excess interest rate, charged on sums drawn beyond the authorized limit for each customer. These remain at 12 and 15 per cent for the respective banks, over and above the normal rate paid by the customer for his authorized overdraft.

RECANATIS

(Continued from Page One)

a controlling stake, is seeking permission to raise new equity capital by a share issue of as much as NIS 40 million-50 m. - the largest equity issue seen in Israel in years. No bank has floated new shares since 1982, and under the terms of the "arrangement" with the Treasury, a new issue requires government approval.

Whether this would be forthcoming is dubious. The official line is that the banks have to slim down, not expand, and that they should sell assets rather than seek new areas of activity.

Furthermore, the new shares would be outside the scope of the bank shares "arrangement," therefore aggravating the problems that will be caused by the divergence of ownership and control in the main banks after October 1988. As a result of special shares with privileged voting rights, control could be exercised by stockholders who hold only a small proportion of the total number of shares.

The capital structure of IDB allows each class B share to have 10 votes against only one for regular shares. By holding the bulk of these shares, the Recanatist control the company, which itself holds most of the shares of Israel Discount Bank and IDB Development, the group's investment arm.

Analysts pointed out that approval of a new share issue, whether directly to the public or through "rights" to existing shareholders, would significantly bolster Recanatist control of the group. That would undermine growing demands to convert all the shares in all the banks covered by the "arrangement" to the one-share, one-vote principle, including Bank Discount.

IDB sources told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that the proposed share issue reflected the need for more capital on the part of both arms of IDB's activities. The bank had cut its staff and pruned its branch network, as well as selling properties, but it needed new money to finance development.

The formal request for permission to proceed is seen by IDB as an attempt to break the growing deadlock on the future of the banks. "We have made our suggestion," said a well-placed IDB official, "and now they can either accept or reject it. They can't keep it on ice. If they accept, then we can go ahead with our business plans. If they reject it, then at least we know where we stand - and they will have the responsibility for keeping the whole group short of capital and unable to move ahead. We are showing that we are confident enough to want to invest more in our companies."

A senior Bank of Israel official told *The Post* that the request was under consideration and a formal answer would be given soon. The issue would not be avoided or dragged out, the source promised.

Plan to end linked life insurance hit

By KEN SCHACHTER

TEL AVIV. - A coalition of independent businessmen and insurance companies have banded together in an effort to derail a Finance Ministry plan to end the linkage between personal life insurance policies and the consumer price index.

At a press conference yesterday, the coalition blasted the proposal, scheduled to take effect January 1, as an effort to make a token move toward liberalization at the expense of a sector of the economy that has relatively little clout.

"They've chosen the sector they feel is least able to react," said Harold Stutzen, chairman of the Association of Insurance Agents and Brokers. "If they chose worker pension funds, they'd be up against the strength of the Histadrut."

Stutzen estimated that more than 200,000 Israelis hold personal life insurance policies worth about NIS 1 billion, about half the total worth of all Israeli life insurance.

Fully linked policies are guaranteed by the government. Under the new plan, insurance companies would cover the benefits by investing part of the premiums paid by policyholders in common and preferred stocks, and charging interest to borrowers. Although this is common practice in free-market economies, Stutzen noted that "unfortunately, our economy is far from being normal."

Since insurance companies would have to depend on their investment acumen and the uncertain activity of markets, Stutzen said, they couldn't guarantee that profits would keep pace with inflation and would have to keep their policies "very open."

"We've seen plenty of bad investments made in Israel in the last 10 to 20 years," he said.

Talks advance on sale of engine maker

Post Aviation Reporter

Negotiations for the purchase of the debt-ridden Beit Shemesh Engines by industrialist Stef Wertheimer are at "an advanced stage," a senior company source told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

Wertheimer is at present abroad, but a source at his Nahariya Iscar Blades company confirmed that the Beit Shemesh Engines deal was still being negotiated and that Wertheimer was also pursuing the matter in Europe.

He visited the Paris Air Show and was reportedly looking for orders there. He met with Defence Minister Rabin who was also visiting the show.

Apparently, one of the major obstacles in the way of a purchase agreement - guaranteed Defence Ministry orders - has been overcome. Rabin had previously balked at committing his ministry to minimum annual orders of \$20 million.

The fate of the engine manufacturer has been teetering on the brink, with Finance Minister Moshe Nissim claiming that it would cost NIS 180 million to keep the plant running. The government, the major shareholder in the company, has several times postponed a decision, possibly fearing the effects of closure on the development town of Beit Shemesh.

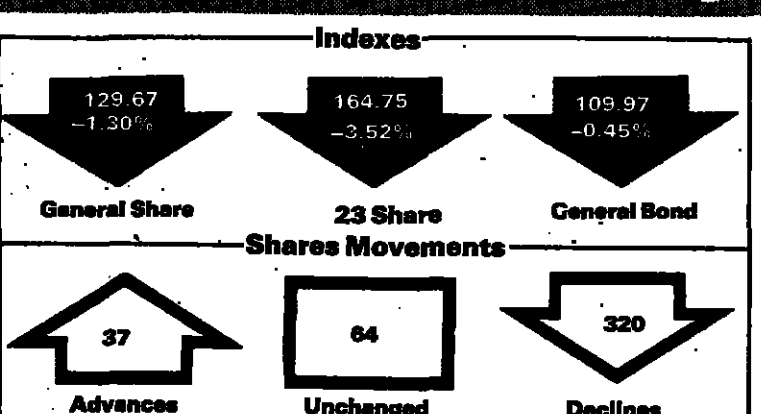
Wertheimer, who first made his rescue offer over a year ago, has been held up by the government's indecision, while the company's debts mount. However, the senior company source said he was now hopeful that the negotiations would soon come to a successful conclusion.

The plant continues to operate at a high technological level, the source said.

Technological training for new conscripts

SDEROT (Itim). - The IDF's Southern Command is prepared to accept new conscripts from the surrounding Negev towns to its communications and ordinance units, and to train them in relevant university courses, a senior officer said yesterday.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange



Selected Prices

Name	Price	1/2 year	% change
Commercial Banks			
(last part of "arrangement")			
Bank Leumi	2250	9	-0.7
Bank Hapoalim	2100	2224	-1.4
Bank Discount	27500	30	-1.8
Bank Leumi	8500	4728	-3.3
Commercial Banks			
(last part of "arrangement")			
Bank Leumi	9950	973	+0.6
Bank Hapoalim	7200	113	+0.3
Bank Discount	123400	129	+0.7
Bank Leumi	38000	1208	+0.3
Bank Hapoalim	6000	204	+0.4
Bank Discount	88551	149	+0.1
Bank Leumi	41500	2401	+0.2
Bank Hapoalim	38500	4	+2.0
Mortgage Banks			
Bank Leumi	10980	242	-3.5
Bank Hapoalim	3870	288	-3.7
Bank Discount	3624	170	-1.0
Bank Leumi	24850	379	-3.1
Bank Hapoalim	8250	170	-2.0
Financial Institutions			
AgriCo	18000014		-5.0
Leumi	12821	188	+2.0
Ind. Dev. DO	59480	6	-2.6
Clal Leasing 0.1	25800	6	-2.6
Insurance			
Arava 0.1	1485	598	-
Phoenix 0.1	788	5818	-
Hahamatzim 1.0	8330	37	-
Mehamatzim 1.0	2801	280	-3.7
Sahar	484	4741	-4.5
Securitas	1280	1478	-3.8
Zion Hold. 1	10550		-
Trade & Services			
Melzi	1002	1282	-2.7
Clal Trading	470	37081	-5.8
Lightage 0.1	861	280	+1.1
Gold Storage 1.0	1388	801	-6.0
Don Hovav 1.0	2036	875	-4.7
Yarden Hotel	2800	350	-4.8
Hilton	22122	436	-
M.L.L.	18000	104	-5.9
Team 1	858	4780	-2.7
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture			
Azoria	1350	18581	-8.2
Al-Rov	1774	180	-2.0
Africa Int. 0.1	54200	271	-3.6
Africa Int. 1.0	43848	784	-4.4
Darshan	6850	488	-8.2
J.E.C.	322	15727	-4.5
Reyale 0.1	5500	1448	-8.3
Mehamatzim 1.0	8500	1512	-3.7
Hahamatzim Prop.	1770	2280	-8.3

23 Shares

Name	Price	1/2 year	% change
General Share			
Bank Leumi	2250	9	-0.7
Bank Hapoalim	2100	2224	-1.4
Bank Discount	27500	30	-1.8
Bank Leumi	8500	4728	-3.3
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(last part of "arrangement")			
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Reyale 0.1	5500	1448	-8.3
Mehamatzim 1.0	8500	1512	-3.7
Hahamatzim Prop.	1770	2280	-8.3

Statistics

Stock Indices	151.78	-3.21%
General (last argmt.)	151.78	-3.21%
Non-arrmt. Banks	115.17	-0.37%
Arrangement Banks	151.77	-2.51%
Mortgage Banks	115.17	-0.37%
Insurance	115.05	-2.15%
Commerce & Services	150.28	-2.23%
Real Estate & Agr.	143.72	-1.84%
Industries	150.38	-2.84%
Food & Tobacco	138.06	-1.38%
Textiles	143.72	-1.84%
Metals	144.13	-3.23%
Electronics	145.32	-1.79%
Chemicals	157.45	-2.61%
Industrial Invest.	170.12	-1.50%
Investment Cos.	176.73	-1.85%
Oil Exploration	178.25	-3.21%

Bond Indices

Index-Linked Bonds	106.97	-0.82%
Fully linked	106.96	-0.82%
Partially linked	106.96	-0.82%
Foreign Currency	116.18	-0.05%
FC denominated	116.17	-0.05%
FC linked	106.96	-0.82%
Short-term 0-2 yrs	106.96	-0.82%
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	110.73	-0.40%
Long-term 7+ yrs	110.73	-0.77%

Turnovers

Total Shares	NIS 24,708,500
Non-arrangement	NIS 18,917,700
Arrangement	NIS 5,790,800
Bonds	NIS 5,310,100
Treasury Bills	NIS 58,854,500

Share Movements

Advances	37	(66)
of which 5%+	2	(3)
buyers only	1	(10)
of which 5%+	32	(28)
sellors only	13	(1)
Trading Halt	13	(51)

Bond Market Trends

Index-linked:	Stable/linked to 1%
3% fully linked:	Falls to 3%
4.25% fully linked:	Falls to 3%
5% fully linked:	Stable/linked to 3%
Double linked:	Falls to 5%
Admon:	Rises to 1%
Rimon:	Stable to 1%
Shibor:	Stable to 1.5%
FC denominated:	Stable to 1.5%
T-bills:	16.25-16.50%

Arrangement Yields

Bank Leumi	14.28%
Bank Hapoalim	13.85%
Bank Discount	14.19%
Bank Leumi	13.85%
Bank Hapoalim	13.78%
Bank Discount	13.78%
Bank Leumi	13.78%
Bank Hapoalim	12.51%

Oil Exploration

Paz Oil Expl.	38700	136	-5.4
J.O.E.L.	803	20105	-8.1

23 Shares

-2.25	270	38027	-2.2
-2.25	11000	784	-2.9
-2.75	6048	756	-3.4
-3.00	6527	1782	-4.8
-3.00	1348	3713	-3.7
	3842	447	-0.3

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Managing Director

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An honest wage rise

NO ONE DOUBTS the truth of the finance minister's warnings, that if the budget is pushed into deficit by over-spending, or if large wage settlements cause pressures on the manufacturers' costs, then the growing economic stability will be undermined. Nevertheless, there is ample evidence of demands for real wage increases building up throughout the economy, and the public sector wage talks now underway are only one - if the biggest - of the "fronts" on which the line might give way.

Yet, behind the claims and counter-claims of the Treasury and Histadrut negotiators, can be discerned the outlines of a settlement that would be beneficial to both sides and to the economy as a whole. Both Finance Minister Moshe Nissim and Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar have raised the possibility of continuing the tax-reform process begun earlier this year, as a means of boosting net, or take-home pay of middle- and low-income workers, without giving gross pay rises that would have to be funded by employers. There is, unfortunately, a wide gap between what the two sides have in mind, when they present this as a solution.

The Treasury is in favour of deepening the extent of its roll-back of personal income tax rates, by raising the tax threshold and broadening the width of each tax bracket. But it wants to replace the revenues this process will lose by abolishing the numerous tax breaks, exemptions and reductions that have grown up within the Israeli tax system, and that now make it hideously contorted and ridiculously contradictory. A wider tax base with lower tax rates is the Treasury's slogan, influenced significantly by last year's U.S. tax reform, which has made waves round the world.

The Histadrut, it would seem, is in favour of the lower taxes but remains adamantly opposed to the elimination of loopholes. This is gradually putting it in a difficult, and ultimately untenable, position. If it demands straightforward wage rises, to be paid by employers in the usual manner, it must accept that the payment be made through productivity gains - difficult though these may be to negotiate, especially in the public sector. If it wants the wage rises from the tax system, rather than from employers, the cost must be borne by increasing tax revenue from other sources.

With regard to its rank-and-file, the Histadrut's position, and especially that of Mr. Kessar himself, is unenviable. The mood in the country is relaxed to the point of indifference. After being told so often for so long that the economy is coming along fine it is hardly surprising that they believe that a little higher wages or a little extra spending will not do much harm. The wage-earners have been persuaded that they made great sacrifices and achieved great results - which is the truth, but hardly the whole truth. They are happy to believe that now they "deserve" a reward - but in this they are detached from reality. The reward for the sacrifices of 1984-1985 is the low inflation of the last year and a half. The huge jump in real wages last year was either free-loading or an advance on account of productivity gains that have to be delivered. The Histadrut knows this, but finds itself unable to say it in public.

If the threat that higher real wages might translate into renewed inflation fails to make an impact on tough-talking trade unions, the Treasury or Histadrut might bring to their notice the other possible outcome of a higher real wage bill that is not backed by more output. Given the climate of disinflation, which generates growing resistance to price rises, workers who push labour costs up are often pushing themselves out of a job. If once that scenario seemed alien to the Israeli economy - why, so did single-digit inflation, but it is at hand.

CHINESE

(Continued from Page One)

Chinese premier Chou En-Lai had already told him in 1956 that China was willing to establish relations with Israel, but that its policies made such a step impossible. "It's still the same," Wilner said.

ICP spokesman Uzi Burstein said last night that the invitation was made in the context of Chinese attempts to improve relations with Communist parties worldwide.

Dr. Yitzhak Shichor, an expert on China at the Hebrew University's Truman Institute, described a general change in the Chinese attitude

towards international ties. The Chinese are showing growing "self-confidence" in their willingness to develop "normal relations" with others, he said.

Shichor said that the invitation to the ICP had "diplomatic significance" in that the ICP was in fact "an establishment party" - albeit in opposition - and that the dialogue between the two parties would create a "channel of communication" between the two countries.

Shichor said that the invitation to the ICP is a "slightly bigger step" than the recent "turtle steps" taken by China towards Israel.

ISRAEL AND TOGO

(Continued from Page One)

"his custom" to issue such statements during visits abroad. Shamir's aides said that there would also not be joint statements during the forthcoming visits to Cameroon, Liberia and the Ivory Coast.

Eyadema implied that the Togo embassy would be established in Tel Aviv rather than Jerusalem - "where the rest of the African countries have the embassies," he said.

The Togo president again went out of his way to stress that Togo "had not put out our hand. We talked as equals and spoke of mutual aid," he said. He noted that he had accepted an invitation from Shamir to visit Israel.

Eyadema dismissed yesterday's announcement by the Arab League condemning the renewal of relations. "The Togo people," he said "do not take orders from anyone."

CONSULAR DELEGATION

(Continued from Page One)

Israel in our country. So no group is going to visit my country."

At Helsinki, the Soviets said they wished to renew the passports of Soviet citizens in Israel, to examine the state of the substantial property holdings of the Russian Orthodox Church here, and to inspect their interests: section in the Finnish Embassy in Tel Aviv.

Shah, it said in August, "We have explained to the Soviets that as far as we are concerned, the valuable treasure or property we have in the Soviet Union is the Jewish community of over two million people there."

The Helsinki talks, originally slated to last two days and touted as a "breakthrough" in Israeli-Soviet relations, broke up after a 90-minute session. But Israeli officials said later that the talks had not been a "failure" - simply an end to the discussion.

Jordan's King Hussein voiced his personal support for UN attempts to create the right conditions for an international Middle East peace conference in talks yesterday with UN Undersecretary-General Markarak Goulding, the official Jordanian news agency, Petra, reported.

Earlier yesterday Jordanian Prime Minister Zeid al-Rifa'i stressed his country's support for a peace conference under UN sponsorship in talks with Goulding.

Petra quoted al-Rifa'i as telling Goulding that this was the only way to reach a regional settlement.

Israel's "intransigent" stance, al-Rifa'i added, was the main obstacle to peace in the Middle East.

Goulding, who arrived in Jordan on Monday from Israel, also reviewed UN efforts to promote a peace conference with the Jordanian minister for occupied territories, Marwan Doudin.

Pollard: Some iconoclastic questions

Harry J. Lipkin

THE MORE one sees of the impact of the Pollard case in Israel, the more it looks like a Lebanese definition of loyalty. One is first loyal to one's own career. Then comes one's IDF unit or political party or yeshiva or whatever. What is good for the country is given appropriate lip-service and dismissed with the slogan that what is good for me and my party is good for the country.

The Pollard case should raise questions of what loyalty means in Israel, not in the United States. Rafael Eitan was appointed by then defence minister Ariel Sharon to a sensitive post. To whom is Eitan accountable after Sharon is sacked and replaced first by Moshe Arens and then by Yitzhak Rabin? Where is his loyalty? Obviously to Sharon, who will stand by him after he is fired from this job and will see that he gets another good job. What does he owe to Arens or Rabin? If he embarks on a catastrophically stupid action which he thinks is clever, why should he bother to report it to Sharon's adversaries?

In all the discussion about Eitan and Pollard, no one considers the fate of the Scientific Intelligence Unit, which was presumably doing something important for Israel security before Sharon wrecked it by firing whoever was in charge and appointing the wrong man in the

wrong place at the wrong time. As a scientist, I can imagine many necessary activities for such a unit that do not involve the stealing of officially secret and probably useless documents. What happened to these activities when the government closed down the unit instead of just firing and reprimanding Eitan?

In these days of the information explosion, there are too many papers around and 90 per cent of them are not worth reading, let alone stealing, whether they have secret stamped on them or not. What is needed is intelligence, not paper, in order to separate the useful material from the rubbish.

I HAD SOME contacts with the local intelligence community in the early days of the state, when nobody knew what a nuclear reactor really was and how it worked. There was no possibility for a student to work for a doctorate in nuclear physics in the country; but there were a number of totally unqualified people around who claimed that they knew the secret of how to make hydrogen bombs without uranium, or that they knew someone who knew someone who knew where the Nazis had hidden the materials for making A-bombs.

Fortunately, there were enough Jewish brains in the defence establishment at that time so that Israel did not follow the example of Peron's Argentina and invest in a large fake nuclear project headed by a charlatan. Accepting the advice that there were no nuclear short-cuts, the government allowed the first generation of Israel's nuclear physicists to concentrate on building an infrastructure which would allow students to complete their nuclear studies in the country and on training subsequent generations of locally-produced nuclear PhDs.

Today, the achievements displayed at the Weizmann Institute's nuclear research centre at Rehovot and the Atomic Energy Commission's research centres at Nahal Sorek and Dimona show a level of nuclear competence of which all of Israel can be proud. But this required some degree of scientific intelligence in the early stages, with people who knew what to believe and what not to believe. This scientific intelligence is still needed to meet the challenges of the 1990s.

Today, the scientific and technology community all over the world is greatly excited

about a new discovery called high temperature superconductivity - new materials which may be used in the future for wires carrying tremendous electric currents without any energy losses. (Science, page 5). There are prospects for a great revolution in our use of electrical energy. Already there is too much wrong and misleading information on this being circulated. The government, industry and defence technologists are certain to be approached by all kinds of both well-meaning Jews and disbelievers who are ready to sell ideas that won't work.

The danger today is that all the great achievements of Jewish brains in the period roughly between independence and Camp David may be destroyed by moving the wrong men into the wrong positions of authority at the wrong time. This can be prevented only by removing incompetent people from all positions which require brains, investigating how and why the Jewish brain who had managed security so well in the past were replaced by incompetence, firing the people responsible for this, and setting up a policy to make sure it does not happen again.

The writer is a member of the Weizmann Institute's department of nuclear physics.

Euthanasia's slippery slope

Ram Ishai

doubtedly raised debates in the community at large and among doctors. However, the WMA realized that facts were being created which could lead to dangerous sliding standards and therefore decided to break the silence and express a clear view on what is referred to as euthanasia. It may well be that what prompted the resolution was the declaration by the Royal Dutch Medical Association, called Vision on Euthanasia. First published in August 1984 in the official magazine of the RDMA, this has now been translated into English. The council committee of the RDMA declares that: "The object is not to argue the permissibility of euthanasia" - but "to proceed from the fact that euthanasia is applied."

Hence the aim of the declaration is to put an end to the great legal uncertainty concerning euthanasia both for physicians and patients. Bearing in mind problems that might arise from performing euthanasia on an unconscious patient, they limited themselves to the case of a patient still capable of expressing his will. Their definition of euthanasia includes all activities or non-activities whose purpose is terminating the life of a patient. Since euthanasia is performed only in cases of sickness when no means exist to make the sufferings bearable, the physician is seen as the only competent person to decide upon and perform euthanasia. If for any reason the physician refuses to perform euthanasia, he will have to turn the request over to another colleague. According to this position, once the physician has determined that the patient's request issues from his own free will and is due to

unbearable sufferings that bring the patient to "longing for death, durable and well considered," the question whether the patient is in a dying phase is irrelevant.

This approach was expressed in a lecture delivered last April in Amsterdam by Dr. Sven Danner, head of the Aids Unit at Amsterdam's Academic Medical Centre. According to Dr. Danner, at least 12 victims of Aids who were treated at his hospital had died of lethal doses of medication administered by physicians. The total number of deaths recorded from the disease was 97; that means that one in eight deaths from the disease was due to euthanasia.

Actually, euthanasia is still illegal in the Netherlands but the courts have laid down conditions and guidelines so that physicians who act accordingly can avoid prosecution. Dr. Danner said that half of all Aids patients speak of euthanasia when they learn they have Aids. He added that most Aids victims who received euthanasia could have lived months before dying.

THE STAND of the RDMA is far-reaching and it is very doubtful whether it is acceptable in other places in the world. However, it is a fact that courts in various countries sympathize with those who perform mercy-killing and do not pass severe judgement. One of the early and famous cases was that of Dr. Maurice Millard, son of the founder of the British Euthanasia Society.

"To keep her from pain... I gave her an injection to make her sleep," he reported. This caused an outcry in the British press and they reminded him of the Hippocratic oath which states: "I will give no deadly medicine to anyone if asked, nor suggest any counsel." Despite the pressures, the medical council refused to take action against Dr. Millard as long as the family did not prosecute. In this case, the family itself requested euthanasia.

It can be said that even in countries where euthanasia is legally considered murder, the sympathies sometimes cause inequities in the legal system. In fact, the issue is not judicial but moral: Is it patient who asks me to put an end to his suffering? Contrary to murder, there is no evil intention here, and even though the means are unacceptable, the intention is commendable.

However, it can be argued that the physician may be mistaken in his evaluation of the patient's terminal state; it can also be argued that nowadays pain can be alleviated to a bearable degree, but this is not always the case.

Most religions, and especially the Jewish religion, relate to every killing as killing *per se*, regardless of whether it concerns a young, elderly, healthy or sick, or even a dying person. In the Mishna: "One who is in a dying condition is regarded as a living person in all respects." This is also the opinion of the Babylonian Talmud, and also the code of Maimonides, which prohibit any action that might hasten death.

This is, among others, the opinion of Rabbi Judah Ben Samuel, the

Pious, author of Sefer Hassidim. Therefore one can say along with Britain's Chief Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits that "Any form of active euthanasia is strictly prohibited and condemned as plain murder," and passive euthanasia as well, when it is performed on a person who may live further weeks or months, as was the case with the Dutch Aids patients.

The Jewish approach can be interpreted as supporting the interruption of any action or use of instrumentation when it is certain that this will not interrupt life, but shorten the act of dying. The difficulty is to distinguish between the two situations.

The main problem is to differentiate between what is really done for the benefit of the patient and what is done out of comfort for the family or for the caring team. Killing can occur not because the patient is suffering but because the person caring for him cannot take it any more. So much publicity is given to mercy killing that we run the risk of creating the impression that this is a noble exit.

Moreover, in present-day conditions, euthanasia could be performed to avoid economic burdens on society. If there is not sufficient provision of nursing care, we will witness an increase in euthanasia cases in the near future. It is a slippery slope and we can easily pass from the case of a patient dying from cancer in unbearable suffering to cases of the very aged sick, the crippled and the mentally ill. From there it is a short step to the approach of Plato who taught that cripples should not be kept alive in case they became a social and economic burden on their supporters.

The writer is head of the Israel Medical Association.

READERS' LETTERS

THE SECULAR ARGUMENT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, - One should really be grateful to Rabbi Aryeh Carmell for his article "To sanctify the secular" (May 26) not only for his remarkable concessions - he disclaims infallibility in his religious conviction - but also for his liberal and restrained argumentation.

Beyond this, Rabbi Carmell argues that Zionism has failed ("the zest seems to have gone out of the Zionist enterprise") and secular Zionists are leaving the country in droves to seek better material conditions elsewhere. I would point out to our good rabbi that more members of the second aliyah left this country than stayed in it, and that that phenomenon was repeated in all the "classical" immigration movements until 1948 (and afterwards). Nevertheless, Israel was established by secular Zionists, because the religious elements were small (though no one will deny that they contributed their share), and it would seem that the kind of state they created was superior in ethics and quality of life to the kind of society we now live in, with yeshivot flourishing all around us and the state being run by Shas and Aguda and their allies.

Generally, Rabbi Carmell insists on the ethical superiority of the religious attitude. One really wonders whether one has misread all history to the present time - at least was under the impression that religious wars, mass slaughters in the name of God, cheating and perversion in the name of religion have been with us since the beginning of recorded history, and have cost the

lives of uncounted multitudes and the happiness of vast numbers of others. Or does he exclude Judaism from that sorry story? The Bible is a wonderful source not only of the most exalted peaks of ethical thinking, but also of some pretty awful examples of the opposite.

But we are not dealing with past history only. Do our religious authorities, our religious fanatics, supposedly the representatives of the purest religious morals, behave any better than their predecessors? I am not arguing for the superiority of non-religious ethics. I believe that people behave morally or immorally by standards they or society set and, indeed, religion very often provides a framework for judgment; this framework is then observed or violated in accordance with objective or subjective psychological conditions that have little to do with religious belief. But if Rabbi Carmell believes that our religious fanatics in and out of the Knesset - all of whom claim to speak in the name of religion - are shining examples of the achievements of religious ethical education, then we do indeed part company.

Rabbi Carmell need not worry about the justification for the Jewish claim to a national centre in Israel. The religious claim based on the Bible could be (and is, in some quarters) used to argue for the conquest of Jordan and even of Syria up to the Euphrates. The historic claim to Israel is based on the fact that the Jewish people became a nation here and not elsewhere, and created their unique culture in the land in which

they wrote that magnificent collective work on which their culture was then based. And, of course, they didn't settle anywhere else, as a people.

Rabbi Carmell is clearly uncomfortable with the fact that most Jews in the world today do not live by the religious covenant, though many of us do live by the covenant of their beliefs and their moral commitment. One must either say that all Jews who consider themselves as Jews, whether Orthodox or not, are members of the Jewish people; or, one must say that well over three quarters of the Jews in the world are not Jews, because they are Reform, or Conservative, or Liberal, or secularist (the strict Orthodox position to-day) and just write them off. A pluralistic position will argue that Aryeh Carmell and Yehuda Bauer, together with close to 13 million others, are heirs to a tradition which they choose to interpret differently. A useful dialogue can be engaged in, but not a condemnation, as is the case in so many statements by orthodox spokesmen - thankfully, not by Rabbi Carmell, or so it seems, and that could be a portent of some hope.

YEHUDA BAUER
Chairman,
Association for
Secular Humanistic Judaism
Jerusalem.

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POSTAL SERVICE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, - Our postal service is amazing. A letter sent from the U.S. that was incompletely addressed with "Kfar, Israel" as its destination arrived at my home in Kfar Sava some two months after being mailed. There must be more than 10 towns or villages with the Kfar prefix, so this was a truly great piece of detective work.

I just wish that the persons responsible for this achievement, were in charge of the delivery service between Jerusalem and Kfar Sava, since it usually takes 10 days for an internal letter to arrive.

STANLEY E. GREEN
Kfar Sava.

SOVIET JEWRY PAGE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, - I wish to express my deep appreciation to you and to the editor of the page for your forthrightly feature on Soviet Jewry. Enid Wartman's column is always very good and covers much material. As to Martin Gilbert, his articles are always well written, compassionate and rich in historical perspective.

MALKA LIPKIN
Rehovot.

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